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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 19TH AUGUST.

THE STRANGERS' GALLERY of the House of Commons was pretty full on the occasion of the debate on the Vernacular Press Act. There were, says the *Times of India's* London Correspondent, "several dark-coloured gentlemen in the distinguished strangers' gallery, and among these were the Maharajah of Johore and Mahomed Ali Rogay, of the Bombay Legislative Council; while in the gallery behind there was quite a crowd of Indian visitors. In the Peers' gallery there were about a dozen personages, and amongst these I noticed Lord Northbrook and Lord Kinnaird, the latter of whom rendered himself rather conspicuous by early falling into a prolonged and peaceful sleep." But the House thinned as soon as Mr. Gladstone finished. The members, however, gathered again when Mr. Fawcett was on his legs.

THE SAME WRITER says that Lord Cranbrook has informed the East India Association that "due considerations should be given by the Council of India to the Association's memorial in support of the revival and extension of punchayets as a means of promoting good-will among the Indian people and obviating excessive litigation."

NEGOCIATIONS on behalf of the Russian Government, it is said, have been opened with Messrs. Rothschild for a loan of 400,000,000 roubles. The bonds are to bear interest at 5 per cent., and the loan will be called the "Peace Loan." The issue price will be about 85 per cent., and it will be redeemed in 81 years. Subscriptions are to be invited in all the European capitals.

LORD CRANBROOK was entertained at dinner in the little Kentish town from which he took his title, and which is near his seat at Hemstead Park Mr. Beresford Hope presided at the gathering, which was of a non-political character, and gentlemen of all shades of political opinion joined in congratulating Lord Cranbrook on his elevation. His Lordship urged his hearers and the British nation to take greater interest in Indian affairs. He assured the audience that these affairs had a most important bearing and re-action upon the state of things at home, and that much yet remained to be done to bind more closely the people of India to the people and the government in this country. He pointed out that the responsibility of England with regard to India was enormous, while its power of doing good to the millions of population entrusted to its care was also enormous; and hence he hoped the people generally would be led to give greater attention to the affairs of that vast Empire.

AN INFLUENTIAL party in England has started the project of a "paying route" for the railroad to India. This line would run from Scutari, via Ismidt, Boli, Angora, Divas, Diarbekir, Mardin, Mosul, Kerkosh, Bagdad, and Kerbela to Kuwait on the Persian Gulf, and would be 2,500 miles in length, the cost about £25,000,000. To connect with India another line of 1,600 miles would be required from Bagdad via Howaija and Bunder Abas to Kurrachee. This would bring London within 232 hours of Kurrachee, via Constantinople and Bagdad. Of course this is now only a castle in the air.

THE FOLLOWING are the particulars of the cession of territory to the Mabaraja Holkar: For many years the demarcation of the Khandesh boundary of the dominions of H. H. the Maharaja Holkar has been a subject on which the Maharaja has been well known to feel very strongly. Although the strip of country which he has desired to possess is rough and unproductive, a land of rock and jungle, sparsely inhabited by a few Bhils, and worthless from a fiscal point of view, nevertheless the Maharaja manifested so much special anxiety that the boundary might be adjusted so as to include this tract, that the concession was recommended as one that might suitably be made on the occasion of Her Majesty's assumption of the Imperial title. At that time, His Excellency the Viceroy, with the assent of the Home Government, intimated to Maharaja Holkar that his wishes on the subject would be favorably considered; and the necessary arrangements having subsequently been made with the concurrence of the Bombay Government, the boundary was, as a special favor, so marked out as to allot to Holkar the territorial jurisdiction which he desired.

BEAUTIFUL EFFECTS, says a contemporary, have been produced by M. Clemandot's new process of making iridescent glass. He arrives at this result by the simple plan of applying acids to the glass under a pressure of two to five or more atmospheres. Water containing fifteen per cent of hydrochloric acid brings out the rainbow tints like mother-of-pearl, such as are to be seen in some of the old glass found at Nineveh, which had been exposed to the air for centuries.

TUESDAY, 20TH AUGUST.

IT WOULD seem that carpets manufactured in the Agra Jail have attracted attention at the Paris Exhibition. The critics observe:—"But from the Agra Jail comes an admirable carpet, in which the safflower dyes are not too staring, while the design is certainly excellent." The *Pioneer* hears that "a considerable demand for these carpets has sprung up in Paris; and a correspondent who has visited the jail states that the factory has on its looms carpets of all sizes for the *Grand Magazin du Louvre*." It is a pity that the Indian carpet manufacture receives so little attention. It ought to pay handsomely.

WE GIVE below the opinions of the English Press on the debate on the Vernacular Press Act:

The *Pall Mall Gazette*.—The character of the speech with which Mr. Gladstone prefaced his motion respecting the Indian Vernacular Press gave a commendable tone to the debate, but the studied moderation of the speaker, especially as combined with the extreme mildness of his proposals, took much of the life out of the discussion. It is difficult to help feeling, with Sir George Campbell, that opinions so clear and decided as are expressed by Mr. Gladstone should have led him to a stronger resolution than that which he actually proposed; and when at the close of the debate Sir Stafford Northcote showed a complete willingness to concede the principle of Mr. Gladstone's demand—although the exact form of compromise offered by him was unacceptable—the contest began to assume too much the form of a dispute between Tweedledum and Twetledee. None the less, however, has the very coldness and spiritlessness of the discussion a significance of its own. The truth is that the House felt the virtual impossibility of reviewing the discretion of the Viceroy of India upon a question of this kind and the consciousness of either political party that its opponents shared its feelings in this respect prevented each in turn from either attacking or defending the Press Bill with any amount of spirit.

The *Morning Advertiser* considers the elaborate speeches made in support of Mr. Gladstones motion were so many arguments against it. Is it clearly not the case, as Sir Henry James affirmed, that the state of things against which the Act is directed existed for years back unchallenged?

The *Standard* thinks it is manifest that to deny the right of native criticism, because it may be abused, is to prove false to our own principles, and to condemn the people to arbitrary rule. How in fact, are foreign administrators to gather the wishes of those among whom they live but through the Vernacular Press? Is it not desirable that if any of our officials are abusing their trust they should be checked in their career by the voice of public opinion? Is it not expedient in our own interest that we should be able to judge of the sentiments of the people, if they really are discontented, instead of being taught, by an insurrection? Our Indian Civil Servants *must* learn to bear with criticism as our public men do at home. Sir G. Campbell, though of opinion that some regulation of the Press is required, admits that it is neither seditious nor disloyal. We do not doubt that its attacks are often unjust spiteful and even malignant but that is no reason for withdrawing press offences from the cognisance of the Law Courts; nor does it justify the placing of the Vernacular papers under restrictions from which English papers are exempted.

The *Daily Telegraph* writes:—All Mr. Gladstone thought it proper to ask the House to affirm was that the proceedings taken by the Indian Government under the Act should be reported to the Secretary of State and laid before Parliament. Such was the anticlimax of a sweeping indictment, denouncing the entire measure. What does it imply? That the Government of India works in the dark, whereas every proceeding warranted by the Act must be and would be made public as a matter of course, and in the ordinary conduct of business. If, therefore, the proposal were only intended as a check the sufficing answer is that the check exists. No abuse of the statute, no petty tyranny could take place without being trumpeted from end to end of the realm in the *Official Gazette*. Why, therefore is this special slur cast upon the good faith of the Supreme Government.

The *Daily News* argues Lord Lytton's friends could not have objected to the spirit of the debate. In his temperate speech Mr. Gladstone paid high tribute to the abilities of Lord Lytton and to the excellence of his intentions. He dwelt with feeling on the Viceroys courageous action on one memorable occasion, and his desire to give the natives a larger share in the government of India. He spoke of the Press Act as an isolated error on the part of Lord Lytton. These tributes, however, only put in sharper contrast the objections to the new Press law which the debate disclosed. The defence offered was feeble and halting and apologetic. Few members ventured to defend the Viceroy's measure out and out. Even Mr. Smollett, who does not strain at a gnat, and who spoke with characteristic truculence of the opposition to the measure, could not defend the invidious distinctions drawn between the European and native Press. It will not be open to any friend of Lord Lytton to contend that a drop of personal feeling was imported into the controversy. The question could not, indeed, have been argued with greater calmness or more strictly on its merits. . . . . To muzzle the Native Press, and to go back to the system of licenses which existed between 1823 and 1835, at a time when great changes are going on, and when vitally interesting questions are in the air, is to tell the natives that England profoundly distrusts them. To take this steps hurriedly in order that the Viceroy might consult his convenience by going to Simla, was not a very edifying proceedure. But the really fatal objection to the measure is that on the evidence before the world, it was gratuitous and unnecessary. Lord Lytton in his telegraphic despatch to Lord Salisbury spoke of the urgency of the measure; but no proof of the truth of this plea, on which the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained, has been produced. There is nothing to show that the slightest danger to our rule has been caused by the Press which the Government propose to muzzle. We have already drawn attention to the unfair and untrust-worthy character of the extracts which are produced as evidence of the seditious tone of the Native Press. It is clear that, by reason of ignorance or carelessness, many of them have been garbled, and that the official translations do not faithfully reflect the minds of the writers. What is the bulk of the extracts but puerile rubbish and harmless fustian? Where the native journalists do not indulge in criticisms which are unpleasant just because they have an element of truth, they pen random rhetoric. It may not be very edifying, but to describe it as "poisonous matter," or as likely to shake the basis of our power, is to give importance to trash which it does not deserve. The allegorical calumnies and libels at which the Viceroy is affrighted are not worse than they have been for years—Sir George Campbell, who as an Indian administrator has had his share of abuse, says that they are not so bad. The Native Press which is to be muzzled is the same Press extracts from which, containing flattering eulogies of the wisdom and sagacity of employing native troops, the Viceroy carefully telegraphs over. What as Mr. Fawcett pertinently asked, will be the worth of these opinions when they come from a Press which will be at the mercy of the authorities? Mr. Stanhope, who spoke on behalf of the Government, virtually threw the responsibility of the Act on the Viceroy and his advisers. "They know best," was his main argument. He went on to add rather inconsistently, that in reference to Lord Cranbrook's objections certain clauses had been erased. Indeed, it was only too plain from his ingenuous speech that the real objection to Mr. Gladstone's motion that all proceedings under the Act should be laid before the House, was that it was a virtual censure of Lord Lytton. Sir Stafford Northcote spoke of the measure as a regrettable necessity; but, as Mr. Gladstone in his reply observed, no one on behalf of the Government produced a single passage to justify the alleged necessity,

The *Times* points out that the Press Act is not an organic part of the Criminal Code, but rather a kind of excrescence, which the Indian Government may as easily cut off as Parliament could repeal a law for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. The sternest of Mr. Gladstone's criticisms were directed against the transfer of the power over the Press from the judicial bench to executive officers; and it is impossible to deny that such a change is not agreeable in itself. It is essentially despotic. But the truth is that a little despotism more or less in a country which has not, and cannot have, a Parliament, or the right to choose its own rulers, or to tax itself, is not a matter which need disturb the most evangelistic of Liberals. But the best answer to Mr. Gladstone's arguments is, as we have said, his practical conclusion. The Vernacular Press Act cannot be very bad when he would leave it untouched, provided the Imperial Government and Parliament be informed from time to time of its results.

MONEY SEEMS to be unusually cheap at this season. Any amount, it is said, can be had at 2½ per cent interest on deposit of Government securities. The Bank rate is 4 per cent.

FRANCE continues her career of financial prosperity. The returns of indirect taxes for the first five months of this year show an increase of 27½ millions of francs over the corresponding period of last year, and 32 millions over the estimates.

CAPTAIN WEBB has swum from Gravesend to Woolwich and back again, probably the longest distance swam in salt water that has ever been accomplished. The time occupied was ten hours all but three minutes, the distance covered being about 40 miles.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST AUGUST.

IN TOKIO there was a discussion, some little while ago, about certain principles of astronomy. Two Buddhist Priests, provided with a terrestrial globe, gave lectures to the people, denouncing the beliefs of Western science, and maintaining chiefly that the pillars of the earth are fixed and cannot be moved. They commanded large and credulous audiences, till at last two schoolmasters and a Japanese Christian spoke out on behalf of the Galilean theory. Some two thousand people who were present stoned the three, especially the Japanese Christian, who barely escaped with his life.

A SEVERE famine is reported to be raging in Morocco, and affecting no less than three millions of people.

THE GOVERNMENT of India has appointed Mr. Jewanjee Dorabjee as acting conductor in the Indian Government Dockyard at Bombay, the appointment

being subject to any change that may be made in the reorganization of the Indian Marine. Mr. Jewanjee has been a Government servant for many years, and rendered valuable assistance to Government during the fitting out of the Abyssinian and Malta expeditions. He is the only Indian mechanical engineer who holds such a responsible post.

AMONG THE Indian troops quartered at Malta, the *Jewish World* states that there are some black Jews, members of a community existing on the coast of Malabar, who claim to be descended from the Jews sent by King Solomon to India to collect ivory and precious stones.

A DANCING-DUEL has been going on in New York between a French resident and an "American citizen." The Frenchman danced twelve hours on a stretch for a wager. The American, thinking that so great an honour should belong to his country, danced for fourteen hours, and enjoyed a brief triumph, which was soon dashed by his foreign foe, who danced for fifteen hours!

THE LAST issue of the *British Burmah Gazette* contains a minute by Mr. C. U. Aitchison, Chief Commissioner, relative to the expediency of creating a port trust at Rangoon, together with papers on the same subject from Mr. Darlington, the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, and the Master Attendant The Chief Commissioner says:—"In my opinion, it is not right that, in so large and important a harbour the mercantile community, whose commercial enterprise is the life and soul of the place, should have no voice in the management of the affairs of the port." We concur.

ANOTHER RUSSIAN "spy," Madame Lydie Pasclokoff, a Russian lady, who is a member of the Geographical Society of Paris, and of the Philosophical Society of New York, and correspondent of the *Figaro* and the *Tour du Monde*, has come to the front. She is now completing her voyage round the world, having come to Ceylon from Brazil *via* New York, San Francisco, Japan, and China. She intends making a short stay in Egypt, after which she will settle down to write an account of her travels.

THURSDAY, 22ND AUGUST.

A DARJEELING correspondent writes to say that a European planter taking offence at a khansama of the Darjeeling club assaulted him so brutally as to knock off some of his teeth. What the nature of the offence was has not transpired, but the fact of the members of the club having decided at a meeting that the offender shall pay Rs. 50 to the khansama shews that there was probably little cause for provocation.

THE PEOPLE of the villages of Badu, Goostea, Mohessurpore and others in the sub-division of Baraset, bitterly complain of the present condition of the Badurbazar metalled road, which for want of repairs has become impassable both for foot-passengers and carts. This road pays a double tax—a hackery tax and the usual road toll, and yet no attention is paid to the inconvenience and hardship which its condition entails upon the public. We request the notice of the sub-divisional officer of Baraset to this complaint.

A CORRESPONDENT at Brindabun says that sometime ago the people of some villages thereabout had recourse to the following make-shift for obtaining food in the season of scarcity. They concerted among themselves to commit theft in one another's houses, and to hand over each other to the police, but in this scheme they were sadly disappointed owing to the wickedness of a sharp Magistrate, who when these thieves were brought before him questioned them as to the motive of the crime. They confessed that hunger had driven them to this resort. The Magistrate instead of remanding them to jail dismissed them with five to seven stripes, and so they were dis appointed.

THERE WERE 790 deaths in the suburbs during July last, of which 54 were from cholera, 49 from small-pox, 301 from fever, 144 from bowel complaints and the rest from other causes. Of the 790 persons who died 510 were Hindus, 270 Mahomedans and 10 Christians. The ratio of mortality per thousand of population per annum was 26 86.

IN EXPECTATION of the famine ceasing during the coming autumn, the Government of India has issued a circular letter addressed to heads of the famine-stricken provinces on the subject of the jails being overcrowded with prisoners, who were forced to commit crimes on account of high prices, the Government of India is of opinion that when prices return nearly to the ordinary level it would be a justifiable act of mercy toward a special class of offenders, if the Executive Government were to release, or remit the sentences of a certain number of prisoners, who have been in part at least, driven by want to commit crime.

WE REQUEST the attention of the Magistrate of Howrah to the following received from our Ampta correspondent:

Owing to the annual rise of the river Damooda the breach in the Zemindari bund of Chappatah has done great mischief. The paddy fields of Madarea, Milkichuk, Juggnnathpore, Churuktallah, Dhukin Jallah and others, measuring an area of about a lac bigghas of land, have been laid under water. If the waters subside within two or three days there may be some outturn, say about half the average crop, otherwise the whole will be lost. Last year the same thing happened with the Zemindari Bund of Kotalparrah and destroyed the Government embankment. To guard against the calamity a petition was submitted to the Deputy Magistrate of Mohesurekha last March to compel the Zemindars to make timely repairs to the bunds, but it now appears that no action was taken upon.

A CORRESPONDENT sojourning in the upper provinces gives the following list of prices prevailing at Muttra and other places adjoining:

	Prices in Previous years,	*Present Prices.*
Rice per Maund Rs. ..	3-8 to 3	Rs. ... 6 to 6-8
Mugh ,, ,, ...	2-8 to 2-4	,, ... 5 to 6
Oil ,, ,, ...	4 to 5	,, ... 9 to 10
Ghee ,, ...	8 to 9	,, ... 16 to 20
Dhahi or curd ,, ...	3 to 4	,, ...
Mutter or Peas ,, ...	2 to 2-8	,, ... 3-8 to 4

IT IS SIGNIFICANT that the *Pioneer* gives to the following letter a place in its leading columns:

'Will you allow me a little of your valuable space to enter a humble protest against the last dodge of the *Times'* Calcutta correspondent? I refer, of course, to his telegram of lengthy extracts from the Native Press, as now constituted, in support of British policy. It is said enough to have been forced to gag that press; but surely we may spare both it and ourselves the cruelty and disgress of appealing to it, in its present condition, as a witness to the popularity of our public measures. Balaam can gang his own gait, if he will, now-a-days. He has taken good care this time that though a whole legion of angels bar the way to them, his ass shall not have a speech of him. But, at least, let him refrain from seeking to persuade the good animal that it can so far have forgotten the dignity of its history as to be now of one mind and one utterance with its Godforsaken rider. Even the English public will never be gulled into mistaking for the *vox Dei* the *vox populi*, as now issuing the order from Government organs. We English in India are showing ourselves, for gentlemen cunning common race with Hampden, amazingly apt pupils at present in the (now happily discredited) arts of Continental administration. What is it that recalls to-day in India some of the ugliest features of the First Empire? Is it ostentatious profession in high quarters of regard for personal liberty in general, contrasted with cynical contempt for it in particular? Is it the passing of Press and Arms Acts, while our tongues are still aching with expressions of reliance and good-will? The specious offers to natives of employment in high place, where the *employé* will be the judicial mouth-piece of the administration? The filling of bellies with words and wind, while all sources of true nourishment are withdrawn to the zealous centre of despotism? Something of all. But nothing more unmistakably than this truly Imperial hocuspocussing with a nobbled press, this Pyramus and Thisbe bonroaring. I hope there are not a few Englishmen in India, who feel bitterly ashamed of a policy of dodge and contrivance, and of pseudo liberal bunkum *in excelsis*; and who, when such a policy finds expression, as in this instance, in the English Press, will rebuke it; though the Government of India itself be above remonstrance. A free English press, quoting a native gagged press, in support of a policy which asks for armd native aid on behalf of the English master seems the *ne plus ultra* of indecency or (or the most indulgent view) of imbecility."

Time is the great Corrector, and it will we hope chasten our erratic Government.

FRIDAY, 23RD AUGUST.

WE ARE glad to see that Dr. Prosunno Comar Roy, whose merits it was our pleasing task to bring first under the notice of Sir Richard Temple, has been promoted to the upper grades of the Educational Service. When he was admitted into the service a hope of promotion to the upper grades was held out to him, and we are glad that it has been at last realized.

MR. A. E. GOUGH has been appointed Principal of the Calcutta Madrassa in addition to his duties as a Professor of the Presidency College. He is a profound Sanskrit scholar, but he will have to pick up Persian and Arabic. We cannot understand why he is retained in the Presidency College His whole time ought to be devoted to the Madrassa, and he should be required to take up his quarters in the College premises as the late Mr. Blochmann did. Such an arrangement will be conducive to the best interests of the institution.

LONGFELLOW, it is stated, is collecting a second series of "Poems of Places," which are this time to be in Asia. Persia, Arabia, India, Turkestan will all be represented, and any other Asiatic countries that have been celebrated in song.

THE PIONEER gives the following account of Professor Ritchell's aerial car:

Two successful ascents and descents were made on the 12th and 13th of June in Professor Ritchell's new flying machine at Hartford, in Connecticut. The height attained on the first occasion was 250 feet, and on the second not less than 1,000 feet from the earth. The lifting power is given by means of a horizontally placed cylinder of "gossamer cloth" fine linen coated with India-rubber, 25 feet in length and 13 in diameter weighing only 66 pounds and charged with hydrogen gas, which is made by the usual process from iron turnings and sulphuric acid. Broad worsted bands extend over the cylinder and down to a rod of mandrel-drawn brass tubing, nickel plated, 1½ inch a diameter and 23 feet long, from which hollow rod the machine is suspended by slender cords. The after portion of the machine is at the base a parallelogram of rods 2 feet by 5½ feet long with curved hollow rods rising lengthwise from it 18 inches high in the centre and drawn near together at the top. Above the apex of this rises an 11-inch steel cogwheel with double handles so geared to a four-bladed white holly fan moving horizontally just below it, that the operator, who is perched on a small seat just behind the wheel, can give the fan 2,0 0 revolutions a minute. Another 22 inch revolving fan working vertically and making 2 8000 revolutions a minute, which can be turned from one side to the other so as to deflect the course of the machine in the air, is also at the command of the operator who, can, by reversing the action of the main fan by means of treadles, go either earthwards or mount upwards in the air with the greatest ease possible. Mark Quinlan, who made the two ascents, weighed only 96lbs, and had to carry along with him about 9lbs, of shot and stones to balance himself and the dead-weight against the lifting power of the gas. When at a height of 1,000 feet the cylinder looked no larger than an orange, and the apparatus was more than once lost to sight. After an hour's cruise in the air amid sharp gusts and strong currents the aeronaut descended some five miles and then re-ascended, but on the first occasion steered himself back dexterously to the exact starting point, the wind being less severe.

Though no immediate practical use, says the writer, is seen in this new flying machine, it seems to be a great step in progress towards aerial navigation, and it may be the means of leading others to devise something which will be of real use hereafter. It fails in overcoming the force of the wind's resistance, though in still air it has shown itself to be susceptible of being guided and steered at the will of the operator.

THE OCTROI, it would seem has proved successful in the Punjab. It was introduced in 1874, and last year it yielded Rs. 18,05,179 out of a total municipal income of Rs. 21,71,474. It is levied in the same way as in the North-West Provinces, and the following explanation of its effect is given by the local Government:—"An estimate of the town consumption of commodities having been made, the octroi calculated on it is levied on all articles of a taxable character at a lower rate, sufficient to yield the same sum as would be realized if levied only on articles actually consumed in the town. To this extent, therefore, through trade has been taxed for the benefits afforded to it by the police, conservancy, and sanitary arrangements of the town." The Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab congratulates himself and the province that the system of municipal taxation had been worked easily to the people and with much benefit to their personal security and sanitary condition. Trade had not been checked, and the interest shown by the natives who had sat upon the boards was very gratifying.

THE FOLLOWING are the names of the successful candidates at the last Indian Civil Service Competition:

Names.	Marks.
Charles Wenter Payne	... 2,048
James Edgeworth Innes	... 1 847
Jhon D Cource Atkins	... 1,705
Robert Warrand Carlyle	... 1 652
John Samuel Champion Davis	... 1,646
William George Stack	.. 1.635
William Moscardi	... 1 583
John Hewetson	.. 1,554
Kenworthy Brown	... 1,527
Joseph Crowly	... 1 529
Bannatyne Macleod	... 1 513
Edwart Creswell Rawson	... 1,505
Charles Gerwien Rayne	... 1,475

WHILE the Government of Beng al is inveighing against the elective system introduced into Calcutta the Government of Madras proposes to introduce it into the Mofussil of that Presidency. So much for uniformity of principles in the administration of India.

SATURDAY, 24TH AUGUST.

ACCORDING to several correspondents of the *Indian Tea Gazette* the prospects of tea are bad this season in Assam.

A SERIOUS strike of colliers is going on at present in French Flanders. It broke out in the district of Valenciennes, and has rapidly spread over the whole of the Northern coal region. The hands ask for a rise, which the coal owners are willing to grant, but not until the hands have returned to their work on the wages hitherto paid them.

THE SUM which will be payable by England to Turkey in respect of the revenues of Cyprus, according to one account, amounts to about 90,000l. a year. But Turkey owes England some 70,000l. a year in respect of the 1855 loan, and it is probable, says an English paper, that the latter sum will be deducted from the former in any payments that are made. This was the surmise we made last week.

THE CALCUTTA High Court (Mitter and Maclean, J. J.) have recently decided in an appeal case from Rajshahye that according to the Hindu Law current in Bengal an unchaste mother is not entitled to succeed to the property of a deceased son, if she had become unchaste before the succession opened out to her. This ruling is based on the authority of Rughoonundun who applies to all cases of a woman's succession by inheritance the principle laid down for the wife, that chastity is the *conditio sine qua non* for her right of inheritance.

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WE ARE glad to learn that consequent on the absence of Mr. Webb on furlough Babu Rajkissen Mookerjea M. A. B. L. has been appointed a lecturer at the Presidency College. Babu Rajkissen Mookerjea was the student, whose papers in philosophy so much struck Sir Henry Maine that he publicly declared that "his performances in philosophy would do credit to the flower of the Oxford schools." We hope to see him permanently attached to the higher grades of the educational service.

THE HIMALYA CHRONICLE gives the following extracts from certain correspondence between Ameer Shere Ali of Kabul and Sultan Hamid, published in an Italian newspaper of the 14th July last:

"Says Shere Alí, I am not quite sure that the Russians are as energetic as the English, but they certainly exceed them in sincerity. I cannot believe one single word spoken by the English, and your Majesty must have learnt by this time that they always hold back in the moment of one's necessity. Had the conduct of England ever been just then should I have got over my difficulties, but relying always on their force and their grandeur, they have treated me with insolence—never taking proper account of me. I am convinced by conversations lately had with the Russians, they are much more sincere than the English.

Says Sultan Hamid—ever victorious, barring his defeats—I cannot in any way accept your ideas as regards these English. I cannot complain of the English, nor have I ever spoken one word against them. I advise you to renew relations with the English; do not let yourself be deluded by those spies of the Russians, but I see with pain you are hostile to the English."

We doubt the authenticity of these letters.

THERE WERE 237 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 17th August, of which 86 were from fever, 24 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 10 from small-pox, 11 from cholera, 31 from tetanus, 8 from lung diseases and the rest from other causes. Nine children were still-born and two died from old age. There were 22 deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races, of which 4 were from cholera, 3 from fever, and two from drowning.

A CORRESPONDENT from Loneshingha in the district of Fureedpore writes to say that the inundation of the country caused by the rise of the rivers has plunged the people, the laboring classes, into deep distress and misery. High prices were ruling for some years past, and they naturally hoped that the expected *Aus* crop would give them some relief. But instead of any relief being obtained most of them have lost even what they had. The writer informs us that at this time of distress the Paul family of Bhojeshwar have very nobly come forward to the help of the poor. They are distributing rice at the rate of half a seer a day to every needy person who comes within their reach and this charity costs them about 5 maunds of rice or Rs. 20 daily. This very family showed their liberality by a donation of Rs. 5000 for the construction of a public road from Bhojeshwar to Palong.

THE SAME correspondent suggests that the removal of the sub-division from Madaripore to Mulfutgunge would afford great relief to many people, who are put to no end of hardship and inconvenience in having to visit Madaripore when business requires them so to do.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Administration of Travancore for 1876-77. 2. The Indian Law Magazine, Bombay, Vol. II. No. I. 3. The Student—a monthly journal for the use of schools, Madras, Vol. I. No. 2. 4. Paricharika—a monthly Bengali journal Vol. I. No. 4. 5. Hints for bettering the prospects of Indian youths and reflections on the various forms of marriages, Bombay.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 19*th August*.—The remainder of the Indian Contingent at Cyprus has been ordered to embark for India.

19*th*.—The English press are discussing with increased interest Cabul affairs, they approve of the Viceroy's action in sending a mission to Cabul. Public opinion favours Government resisting any claim of Russia to interfere in Afghanistan, which would be contrary to past solemn engagements. The Government have promised papers relative to negotiations between England and Russia on Central Asian affairs since 1874.

20*th*.—The Porte has explained the Foreign Ambassadors at Constantinople that want of means is the obstacle that Turkey has to contend against in carrying out reforms. The Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces in Turkestan has joined a detachment of Russian troops at Dichama, situated 64 versts from Samarcand.

22*nd*—The Home Secretary, speaking at Liverpool yesterday after giving a hopeful forecast of the situation, said it should be the great duty of Government now to reduce expenditure to a great extent.

23*rd*,—Mr. Smith the first Lord of the Admiralty, is going to Cyprus to inspect the place. Latest American advices state that the yellow fever is raging in Louisiana.

Constantinople, 18*th-August*—The embarkation of Russian troops commences to-morrow, and the withdrawal of the British Squadron from the Sea of Marmora follows. The evacuation of Batoum has been settled to take place in a fortnight.

20*th*—The Austrians have occupied Serajevo after severe fighting, which was continued fiercely inside the town. The German, British, and French Ambassadors here have urged the Porte decisively to unreserved execution of the Berlin Treaty. The Lazis refuse to surrender Batoum.

21st—Dervish Pacha has notified to the inhabitants of Batoum that the Russian occupation will take place on the 27th instant, and that vessels will arrive to convey intending emigrants from the place.

22*nd*,—The Russians have attacked the Rhodope insurgents at Karnusaler, and the Akbunar insurgents maintain their positions.

Vienna 17*th August*—The 20th division of the Austrians which retreated to Doboi was attacked there by the Bosnians whose infantry made repeated charges which the Austrians withstood but with losses.

18*th*—The Thirteenth Austrian Army Corps has gained a complete victory over the insurgents at Belalovac, and pursued them to Kiseljak, situated twenty miles from Serajevo.

22*nd*,—The announcement that the Austro-Turkish Convention had been concluded was premature. The Austrians are objecting to the draught of Turkish troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our Austrian Press advocated the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Bombay 23*rd August*.—A *Gazette*'s special telegram dated London, the 22nd August, says the Bosnian question is creating anxiety. The opponents of the Government are pointing to this and Central Asia. They ask, where is the promised durable peace? *La Nord* asserts that the Russian expedition to Central Asia has been countermanded.

Alexandria 23*rd August*.—The Negotiations are nearly concluded whereby the Khedive cedes his estates and reduces his civil list. Mr Rivers Wilson has been appointed to the Egyptian Ministry of Finance, and Nuber Pacha becomes President of the Grand Council.

Paris 23*rd August*,—At a banquet at Laon (? Lyons) Mr Waddington defended the Berlin Treaty which, he said, was an equitable and durable solution of the Eastern question, if completely and loyally executed.

Obituary—The Dowager Queen Christina of spain

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, to-morrow Evening at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Mutual Action of Electric Currents and Magnets.

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on *Thursday* the 29*th August* at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Spectral Study of Polarised Light.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the 31*st August* next at 4 P. M.

Subject: Hydro Chloric Acid.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 1878.

THE KABUL MISSION.

THE announcement of a Mission to Kabul immediately after the execution of the Asiatic convention of England with Turkey has taken us by surprise. What does it mean? Does it mean action? The history of our dealings with Kabul is simply a history of the vacillating policy of our Government. During the Sepoy Mutiny our frontier was threatened, and in a weak moment Lord Lawrence, then Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab, proposed the system of subsidies to the Ameer, which were given without exacting from him any *quid pro quo*. The Ameer had then, however, no European ally, and naturally enough courted the favour of the British Indian Government. Next came the domestic broils in Kabul, from which our Government kept itself aloof. For a time the subsidies were stopped. Then Lord Lawrence returned to India as Governor General, and initiated the policy of masterly inactivity. He resumed the subsidies, but again took no stipulation from the Ameer for an offensive and defensive alliance. Lord Mayo perceived the hollowness of our relations with Kabul, and initiated "active" intercourse with it. The time was opportune. The Ameer was frightened by the rapid advance of Russia, and distracted by domestic intrigues. His Highness offered to meet His Excellency the Viceroy and to communicate personally his views. Lord Mayo consented and held the now celebrated Umballa Durbar. But the Durbar was practically resultless. The Ameer wished to enter into an offensive and defensive alliance with the British Indian Government, but the Secretary of State did not like the idea. Consequently the Ameer was loaded with sweet words, handsome presents and increased subsidies. In the meantime Russia progressed further and further. Lord Northbrook dreaded an imbroglio in Kabul and Mr. Gladstone's policy gave him little hope of energetic action. It needs, however, be remembered that Her Majesty's Foreign Office have on record many distinct and positive assurances, verbal and written, repeated several times between 1869 and 1875, on the part of the Russian Ministers and their ambassadors that the Russian Government considered Afghanistan entirely outside the sphere of their action. These assurances have been printed in the Blue Books on the subject and presented to Parliament. Prince Gortchakoff on several occasions has reiterated "l'assurance positive que le Gouvernment Imperial persistait a considerer l'Afghanistan comme entierement en dehors de sa sphere d'action." It was upon the faith of these positive assurances that in 1873 the Government of India and the English Cabinet declined to enter into closer alliance and defensive guarantees against Russia with the Ameer, whose Envoy at that time at Simla implored assistance, and predicted Russian advance with remarkable accuracy and sagacity—in fact, he foretold precisely what has now come to pass. So Lord Northbrook followed Lord Lawrence's policy of wait and watch. Lord Lytton came out to this country with a definite policy about Kabul. The Conservative Ministry, it would seem, were determined to resist Russian advance in Asia. So Lord Lytton first opened negociations with the Ameer for the same offensive and defensive alliance, which the latter had so often so eagerly sought for. But his Lordship was balked. The Ameer it would seem had changed front. He found Russia more earnest, more active, more energetic. Perhaps he also thought that the Russian Bear was more powerful than the British Lion. He did not apparently like the vacillating policy of the British Indian Government and possibly smelt a not altogether straightforward conduct on its part. And so he remained obdurate. On the other hand, rumour had it that Russia had secured the good will of the Ameer, perhaps also a secret compact. This quickened the desire of Lord Lytton to secure a way to Candahar without being dependent upon Kabul, and so his Lordship followed the half developed policy of Lord Northbrook to take a friendly occupation of Khelat. In this he proved successful, and so far one primary object of his active policy was attained. It, however, gave great offence to the Ameer, who complained that he had not been consulted in the matter. Then came the Peshwar Conference, but it too ended in nothing. The Ameer resolutely refused to admit British Agents into his territory. All on a sudden it was stated that Russia had sent a special Mission, which had been cordially received by the Ameer. This may or may not be true; possibly the rumour is correct, for the Mission might have been undertaken in anticipation of the apprehended breach between England and Russia in Europe. Our Government not to be behind hand has projected a Mission to Kabul. It is not stated whether this Mission is proceeding with the consent of the Ameer. It is not likely that such a Mission should have been organized without the Ameer's consent, for it is not in the nature of things that a Mission would proceed to a foreign country without the concurrence of its ruling chief. The late convention between England and Turkey cannot have failed to produce some sensation among Asiatic chiefs. They must have seen that England is determined to keep her hold over Asia whether by deplomatic or armed intervention. And as the Ameer is in the unfortunate position of the man between two stools, on one side England and on the other Russia, His Highness is evidently anxious to keep two strings to his bow. It might also be that this Cabul Mission from India is undertaken with a tacit understanding with Russia. Possibly the two great Powers of Europe, which are destined to rule in Asia, now recognize the truth that both are likely to benefit if they act in harmony, and the proposed Mission is a proof of this harmonious action. Kabul must form the neutral zone between Russia and England in Central Asia, and if they can effect a compact towards that end with the consent of the Ameer, it will do good to all parties concerned. Be that as it may so far as we can judge we cannot believe that the Kabul Mission from India has a warlike object in view. Latterly it was given out that the Ameer had become reconciled with our Government, and the proposed mission has perhaps been facilitated by the altered temper of His Highness. Unfortunately its despatch has been deferred; we are informed that the delay will not propably exceed a week. The Heir Apparent

of the Ameer has died, and this meloncholy event as might be expected has filled His Highness with great grief. Yakub Khan has now a chance of succeeding to the *guddi*, and as the chief object of the Ameer in these negociations has been to secure succession to his own line, he will naturally consult Yakub Khan, if he be adopted the heir apparent. Should this be the case our Government has obtained another chance in its favour, for Yakub, though not much pleased when Lord Mayo had acknowledged Abdulla Jan as the lawful successor of the Ameer, cannot forget the friendly interposition of the British Indian Government under Lord Northbrook for his release. In the meantime it has been announced that the Russian Mission has been countermanded. Under the circumstances we must wait and watch the progress of the proposed Mission.

THE DEBATE ON THE VERNACULAR PRESS ACT.

WE had barely time last week to give the salient points of the debate in the House of Commons on the Vernacular Press Act. The debate was very important. There was a house of no less than 364 members present, and it has rarely fallen to the lot of an Indian question now-a-days to secure such a large house. Even the last Indian Budget was addressed to empty benches. So the fact of such a large house listening to Mr. Gladstone's motion was significant. The subject of the motion was not a party question. India, whether it be its good or ill fortune, does not ordinarily come within the purview of party politics of England. In one sense we consider it a good fortune, because when a public question becomes a party question, it is apt to be decided on party or personal grounds, and not on its own merits. But in another sense it is a misfortune, for according to the theory of the English Government no question receives sufficient attention in Parliament, which has no party bearing or party adhesion. The English system of Government is a perpetual struggle between the rival parties for power, and while the principle of deciding questions on party grounds is essentially bad, the practice has one advantage, the Government acts under a wholesome dread of party jealousy. But this incentive is wanting in Indian matters. India is too far away; its affairs are not understood by the mass of Englishmen; the issues of Indian questions do not affect the immediate interests of the governing families of England; and the English public are therefore indifferent to the interests of India. Hence it is that the very name of India sounds the dinner-bell of the House, which empties the moment it is tolled out. But on this occasion the result was very different. The House was very full when Mr. Gladstone was on his legs, and although it had dispersed when the other speakers took their turn, the members resumed their places the moment Mr. Fawcett stood up. Now, it must have been the intrinsic merits of the question, which drew such a large house. It was repugnant to the instincts of the English nation to see the press gagged, and though India is inhabited by peoples of different religions, customs and habits, they could not still reconcile it to their consciences that these should be deprived of the common right of the British subject throughout the civilized world, that of expressing their opinions and sentiments freely. To India the debate was most important. Mr. Gladstone introduced the motion in a model speech, model we say for Indian speakers. The strength of his arguments lay in the calmness of his language. He was fully alive to the gravity of the subject, and his moderation and coolness produced far greater effect than violent invectives would have had. He admitted the difficult position in which H. M.'s Government was placed. He saw that if the Act was totally repealed, then there would be no alternative for Lord Lytton but to resign. Now, to force Lord Lytton to resign would be a most ungracious act. His Lordship is a friend of the natives, and if in this instance he had dealt out a severe blow to native progress and aspirations he had evidently acted under bad advice. So Mr. Gladstone proceeded in the mildest manner possible. He simply moved that the proceedings of the Indian Government under the Vernacular Press Act be reported to Parliament, in other words its practical working should be carefully watched by the House. Of course no formal motion was needed for this purpose. It was open to any member to call attention to any proceedings of the Indian Government at any time, and the motion of Mr. Gladstone so far as it went was superfluous. But his speech filled the hiatus left by his motion. He took up all the points involved in the question, and spoke in his usual effective style, though in measured terms. There was not an argument advanced by the Indian Government, which he did not tear into tatters. He was generally supported by the speakers, who followed him, and the moral effect of the debate we feel convinced will be much wider than is now apparent. Already we see the leaders of English public opinion have changed front. A more inveterate enemy of the Vernacular Press in England there was not than the *Pall Mall Gazette*. It was in the columns of that paper the ugliest extracts from the Vernacular papers were first paraded. That journal ever and anon advocated a repressive law, but what does it say now? It says:

"But, though the rejection of Mr. Gladstone's resolution is not to be regretted, there is no cause to regret the debate to which it gave rise. It was of too temperate and dispassionate a character to produce any mischievous effect upon the subjects of the recent Indian legislation: while, on the other hand, the authors of that legislation may be all the better for the lesson which it conveys. Anglo-Indian officials will learn from it that all parties in the English Parliament are united in deploring the necessity for such a measure as the Indian Press Act, and that a very large number of members regard its probable operation with considerable and not unreasonable jealousy. If there be any among these officials who suffer from the "morbid asperity of view" to which Mr. Gladstone attributed their over-sensitiveness, as he considers it, to newspaper criticism, they will do well to be on their guard against permitting this temper to influence them in the administration of the new Act. They must at least have perceived that the definition of "seditious writing" which apparently satisfies some Indian officials finds no favour in this country; and that people here are under no temptation to mistake mere unjust criticism or even ill-conditioned abuse of the English administrators in India for incitements to disaffection. The discovery of this fact may possibly lead to a re-consideration of their views on the part of any who may have been in too great a hurry to find treason, where there is nothing worse than folly. It is, at any rate, sincerely to be hoped that this may be so, and that the effect of the debate in this respect may be to reinforce the warnings conveyed in Lord Cranbrook's judicious despatch. We cannot conceal from ourselves, as we said the other day, that, with the utmost care and discretion in administering the new law, there will always be some fear lest its mere enactment may have the effect of partially silencing criticism of the Government in those quarters where it being least actuated by disloyal motives it is most desirable to encourage it. But this danger will be much aggravated by any want of judgment in administering the law. A single mistake or at most a few mistakes in its administration may have the effect of driving native opinion underground—a condition of things under which popular discontent works a maximum of injury while supplying a minimum of information to a ruler. The canon laid down by Lord Cranbrook must be kept in the minds and before the eyes of Indian administrators at all times: "No criticism of Government or its measures should be discouraged if there is reason to think that it has been dictated by an honest desire for improvement;" and, though "open or covert exhortation to disaffection cannot be allowed to be addressed to an excitable population, mere censure of the officers or of the measures of the Government, even if captious, ought not to be repelled." It must not be supposed in India though, that the House of Commons were not prepared to adopt a resolution which might be taken as a censure of the Viceroy they are prepared to approve the Vernacular Press Act otherwise than under the reservation that it be administered in strict fidelity to the principle laid down in the above quoted remarks of the Secretary for India. With that reservation it has been approved by a majority of fifty-six members in a House of 360; without it there would not be found more than an insignificant minority who would refrain from condemning it."

If the debate had produced no other effect than this revulsion of feeling among the leaders of English public opinion, it is in itself a great triumph. Mr. Gladstone has once more vindicated the English nation as the champion of liberty. The House of Commons is the ultimate arbiter of the destinies of the nations in the different parts of the world entrusted to England's care; when the people of India feel aggrieved they appeal to Parliament, and the late debate in the House of Commons on the Vernacular Press Act shews that there is hope for the myriad millions of India.

FIGHTING LIKE KILKENNY CATS.

THOSE, who censure the Vernacular Press of India for stating unpalatable truths in strong language, will do well to read the recent public utterances of some of the foremost men of England both in and out of Parliament. Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone are the two greatest men of the United Kingdom now living. Both have been the leaders of the nation; both possess commanding intellect; both have served the country as the heads of their respective cabinets; both have large following, and both wield immense influence; both are most eloquent and unsparing speakers, and both are regarded as the exponents of national thought. And how have they been treating each other? Neither lets slip an opportunity to carry the war of words to the knife. Since the late Russo-Turkish war both have been pitching into each other with relentless fury, but their strife has it may be said at last reached its climax. At the banquet given to Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury on their return from Berlin Lord Beaconsfield thus alluded to Mr. Gladstone, his old rival and opponent:

"I am sorry to say that, though we taxed our brains and our thought to establish a policy which might be beneficial to the country, we have not satisfied those who are our critics. (Cheers.) I was astonished to learn that the Convention of the 4th of June has been described as an "insane" Convention. It is a strong epithet. I do not myself pretend to be as competent a judge of insanity as my right hon. opponent. (A laugh). I will not say to the right hon. gentleman *Naviget Anticyram*, but I would put this issue to an English jury—Which do you believe most likely to enter into an insane convention, a body of English gentlemen honoured by the favour of their Sovereign and the confidence of their fellow-subjects, managing your affairs for five years, I hope with prudence, and not altogether without success (cheer), or a sophistical rhetorician, inebriated with the exuberance of his own verbosity (loud cheers and laughter), and gifted with an egotistical imagination that can at all times command an interminable and inconsistent series of arguments to malign an opponent and to glorify? (Continued cheers and laughter.)"

These utterances of the Premier were thus alluded to in the House of Lords by Lord Granville:

My lords, the noble earl at the head of the Government is reported to have made in Knightsbridge a pathetic complaint that he sat in a House where his opponents never unsheathe their swords, and where, although the two chief Plenipotentiaries of the Queen sit there, they are met only by innuendo and by question. . . . . What is an innuendo! Your lordships will, perhaps, be surprised to hear that it is not in any of five English dictionaries which I have consulted. But I have an idea, as all your lordships have, of what constitutes an innuendo. When the noble marquis opposite, in the heat of debate, insinuated a comparison between the vilest character in English history and a late colleague, it appeared that there was something of an innuendo in the words he used. . . . . A strong epithet, "insane," was applied by a great political contemporary in a speech entirely devoid of personalities, to a document which, it appears, was defended on Saturday as diminishing the responsibility of the country, because it obliged all future Ministers—whatever they and the country might think at the time, and in whatever circumstances—to do that which Her Majesty's Government deliberately declined to do a year ago. The noble earl thought it becoming himself and his high position to give a character of offensive personality to a *tu quoque*, dressed up in carefully prepared and painfull elaborated sentences, as violent, though not as powerful, as attacks which were directed some 30 years ago against one of the most eminent statesmen of the century. I have a right to say that there was innuendo, or something worse, in this abuse; and I deny, if such be innuendo, that any of the Opposition in this place have indulged in it, and I earnestly trust that we may never be led by the example which has been set us to do so, (Cheers).

Lord Beaconsfield thus replied:

The noble earl has remarked, in the first place, on some observations which I made as to a charge urged against the Convention of the 4th of June by a right hon. gentleman, who described it as an "insane Convention," The noble earl admits that was a strong phrase and one of a character which could scarcely have been allowed to pass unnoticed; but the noble earl says that the person who made it indulged in no personal remarks—that no personal allusion escaped his lipse, and that he spoke with all the abstraction of a philosopher (Laughter.) Now, my lords, it is very possible that on that occasion, though so strong a charge was made against the Convention for which I and my colleagues were responsible, and a charge which, I think, required noticing—it may not have been accompanied with personal allusions at

the moment; but though I never should have introduced the subject if the noble earl had not done so, I must now say that the speaker on several occasions made personal allusions to me—allusions intended to be very offensive, though I must say that I was undisturbed by them, I may allude to the speech at Oxford, which was not an after-dinner speech, but one made in cold blood and in which the right hon. gentleman singled me out from the Cabinet, charged me with all the offences of the Cabinet, and described me as a dangerous and even devilish character. (Laughter, and "hear, hear") He spoke of me in such a manner that if I had taken a very early opportunity of noticing the observations of the right hon. gentleman, and noticing them with acrimony, I think the world would not have been much surprised at it. (Hear.) It was a long time before I took any notice of criticism coming from that quarter, but when an attack levelled at an act which was deemed by us to be one of the highest importance came in such language from a person of his position and his high Parliamentary and political experience, I thought it right that it should be noticed (hear, hear); and as during the more or less excited rhetorical campaign of the previous two years, the right hon. gentleman had indulged in criticism replete with the most offensive epithets as to my conduct, and in description of my character, I think it is not remarkable that I should have taken that opportunity of expressing what I thought to be just view of the position of that gentleman and of his conduct and his language (Cheers.)

In the House of Commons Lord Hartington thus commented on Lord Beaconsfield's attack upon Mr. Gladstone:

"This reminds me once more of the speech made by the Prime Minister on Saturday. I do not complain of his retort to that description of this policy which was given by my right hon. friend the member for Greenwich; it was, I think, a fair Parliamentary retort. But when the noble lord thought it worthy of himself to go on to describe my right hon. friend as "a sophistical rhetorician, inebriated with the exhuberance of his own verbosity ('Hear, hear,' and a laugh), and gifted with an egotistical imagination which could at all times command an interminable and inconsistent series of arguments to malign an opponent and glorify himself," I think he was offering somewhat of an insult to the Sovereign of whom my right hon. friend was for no inconsiderable time an adviser (cries of "No," and cheers); to the Privy Council, of which my right hon. friend is still a member; to this House, which he has led; to the people of this country, who confided in him at one time (hear), and the confidence of a large portion of whom he still commands, (Cheers,) I regret that personalities of that description should enter into our discussions, whether inside or outside this House."

Mr. Gladstone thus noticed Lord Beaconsfield's remarks:

With regard to the declaration by Lord Beaconsfield I think my shortest and simplest course will be to read, without note or comment, a short letter which I have addressed to the noble lord on the subject. (Hear, hear.) It is as follows:

"July 30, 1878.

"Dear Lord Beaconsfield,—I find you are reported in *The Times* of to-day to have made last night a reference to a speech delivered by me at Oxford, and in which you stated that I described you as a dangerous and even a devilish character. I shall be obliged by your informing me on what words of mine you found this statement. You are likewise reported to have said that during the controversy on the Eastern Question I have indulged in criticisms reflecting with the most offensive epithets upon conduct and in descriptions of your character. Will you have the goodness to supply me with a list or selection of these offensive epithets, applied not merely to your measures, but to your personal character, and with a note of the times and places at which they were used? If you have been inaccurately reported, I ask pardon for having troubled you with this letter, which is, I need hardly add, of a public nature."

(Cheers.) I wrote that letter, because if the use of such epithets and the statement of such facts can be proved, my plain duty is to make apology for them. (Hear, hear.) I have had no answer as yet to my letter, and, indeed, I could scarcely have expected one, for it has not been for many hours in the hands of the noble earl to whom it was addressed. The hon. and learned member for the University of Dublin, in moving his amendment last night, referred to a passage in a speech which was delivered by Lord Beaconsfield on Saturday last. I had no intention of referring to that speech at all and I will only say of it now that when I read it I reflected with considerable pleasure and comfort upon the fact that it gave a much better account of me than was given in a speech delivered by the same noble lord at Aylesbury about two years ago. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The hon. and learned gentleman said he regarded the speech to which I refer as jocose—but it was evidently not so regarded by its author—and, though jocose, that it was the result of provocation which I had given by speaking on one occasion of the policy of the Government as dishonouring to the country. (Hear, hear.) I deny that the fact of my speaking of the policy of the Government as dishonouring the country constitutes provocation or can be rightly considered as personal. (Cheers.) I claim in the fullest sense for all members of this House the right and the duty to describe, if they conscientiously believe it, the acts and the policy of the Government of the day as dishonest and as calculated to dishonour the country. (Cheers.) Hon. members ought not to do this lightly or without having first made a full examination of the facts; nor ought they to take this course except in a spirit of readiness to confess themselves mistaken upon proof given of the fact; but, subject to these limitations, I affirm that if you frobid members of this House to denounce when they see cause the policy of any Government as dishonouring the country, you may as well shut the doors of the House (loud cheers), because you will be depriving members of Parliament of one of their most sacred duties—I will not call it a privilege—and you will likewise take from the country one of the best guarantees it can possibly have for the right of administration of public affairs. (Loud cheers) I hope the hon. and learned gentleman, of whom I make no complaint, will really understand that however painful it is—and it is painful—to have to resort to the use of these hard and condemnatory terms, they are yet a necessity of free Parliamentary existence, and I believe the liberty of speech which we enjoy is a liberty which secures all other liberties, and the abridgment of which would render all other liberties vain possessions. (Cheers.)

The following is Lord Beaconsfield's reply to Mr. Gladstone:

"Lord Beaconsfield presents his compliments to Mr. Gladstone, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his letter of this day's date, referring to some remarks made by Lord Beaconsfield last night in the House of Lords, and requesting to be supplied with 'a list of offensive epithets applied, not merely to Lord Beaconsfield's measures, but to his person and character; and with a note of the times and places at which they were used.' As this would require a research over a period of two years and a half, during which Mr. Gladstone, to use his own expressions at Oxford, has been counter working 'by day and by night, week by week, and month by month,' the purpose of Lord Beaconsfield, who is at this moment much pressed with affairs, is obliged to request those gentlemen who are kind enough to assist him in the conduct of public business to undertake the necessary researches, which propably may require some little time; but that Lord Beaconsfield, by such delay in replying to Mr. Gladstone, may not appear wanting in becoming courtesy, he must observe with reference to the Oxford speech referred to in the House of Lords, which was one long invective against the Government, that Mr. Gladstone then remarked that when he spoke of the Government he meant Lord Beaconsfield, who was alone responsible, and by whom 'the great name of England had been degraded and debased In the same spirit, a few days back, at Southwork, Lord Beaconsfield was charger with 'an act of duplicity of which every Englishman should be ashamed, an act of duplicity which has not been surpassed, and,' Mr. Gladstone believed, 'has been rarely equalled in the history of nations!' Such an act, however, might be expected from a Minister who, according to Mr. Gladstone, had sold 'the Greeks' With regard to the epithet 'devilish,' which Lord Beaconsfield used in the House of Lords, he is informed that it was not Mr, Gladstone at Hawarden who compared Lord Beaconsfield to Mephistopheles, but only one of Mr. Gladstone's friends kindly inquiring of Mr. Glandstone how they were 'to get rid of this Mephistopheles; but as Mr. Gladstone proceeded to explain the mode—probably the Brimingham Caucus—Lord Beaconsfield may perhaps be excused for assuming that Mr. Gladstone sanctioned the propriety of the scarcely complimentary appellation.

It is noteworthy that Lord Beaconsfield answered Mr. Gladstone in the third person.

Another Right Hon'ble gentleman, a Cabinet member of the late ministry, thus spoke in criticising the Eastern protocols. He said:

Here is the first instruction given to Lord Odo Russell, who, we are told, knew about it:—"There is no ground for believing that Russia will really give way.' (Laughter.) Not much, I should think, when we had given up all claim to resist. Then the despatch continues,—"It is possible that you will not be able to shake her resolution." Observe, this is the third page of the Blue-book with regard to the protocol; and so we have the agreeable reflection that this, coming in the very front of the battle, will leave a witness against us to all time, and every future historian will make the infamy of the thing conspicuous. The despatch goes on,—"you are not on that account to abstain from earnestly pressing the matter." If the fact that you had given up everything would not make you refrain from pressing it, I don't see why anything else should. The instructions proceed,—"In case of failure you will be made acquainted with the course which the Government has determined to pursue." That makes the thing complete. It is suggested that failure is possible, and then we are informed that Lord Odo Russel had been made acquainted with the course the Government meant to udopt. This might be very good in a play; but think of it being done in real life? Imagine any of us being found out acting such a part! (Hear, hear.) And what makes it worse is this:—I should have had more feeling for it if anything was to be got by it (a laugh); but the thing appears to have been done merely to see how many falsehoods could be placed in—(cries of "Oh," and "order," which drowned the last words of the sentence).

The Chancellor of the Exchequer.—I rise, Sir, to order because I think that the word "falsehood," as applied to the Government, is not Parliamentary language. (Cheers)

Mr. Lowe rose, amid loud cries of "Withdraw!" and—

The Speaker, interposing, said,—The observation of the right hon. gentleman, if intended to apply to any member of this House is out of order, (Cheers,)

Mr, Lowe,—I will not repeat any thing that is offensive to hon. gentlemen. (Renewed cries of "Withdraw?") The Speaker has not called on me to withdraw.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer.—Upon the point of order, Sir, I do not quite understand your ruling; but what I understood the right hon. gentleman to say was that in a certain case the Government have introduced certain expressions with a view to see—or, as if they wished to see—how many falsehoods they could put into a despatch. (Hear, hear.) And I imagine that, as members of the Government are sitting in this House, such a charge made against the Government collectively is unparliamentary. (Cheers.)

Mr. Lowe.—The answer is that I said nothing about the Government. (Cries of "Oh?")

The Speaker.—I understand by that observation that the right hon. gentleman does not intend to apply that expression to the Government or to any member of the Government, (Laughter.) If that is so, the expression might be allowed to pass.

Mr. Lowe,—I bow, Sir to your ruling and withdraw the expression. The result of this transaction was that Russia obtained Batoum, and Lord Beaconsfield went away and said "It is nought, it is nought." I will not pursue that any further. (Ministerial cheers.)"

Yes, in the words of Mr. Lowe, we will not pursue the subject any further. But what a moral do these public utterances of the foremost men of England teach! Here we have the ablest, the most distinguished, and the most honored of England's public men fighting like Kilkenny cats. Perhaps Sir George Campbell will say that in thus drawing attention to their wordy war we are essaying to bring the English nation into contempt. We hope our English readers will not misunderstand or misjudge us. For our part we think that invectives of this kind are the lot of public men, and it is thin-skinned persons like Sir George Campbell who cannot bear the scratch. We only wish to point out to our rulers here that over-sensitiveness is a quality to which English public men are strangers. We believe the great gladiators of debate, who indulged in these literary excesses, were not in the least uncomfortable for the attacks they made upon each other. It is the duty of public men to give and take. In undertaking to guide the vessel of public opinion they must be prepared for the squalls and storms in debate which now and then overtake them. The thunder-bolts, which occasionally fall on their heads, clear the atmosphere around, and give them health and strength. It is only in an uncongenial climate like India, where Englishmen seem to be exotics, that the thunder-bolts prove destructive to their naturally robust moral nature. We would however exhort them to the examples of their national leaders at home. These highly prize the freedom of discussion; these consider any weak points in their political adversaries as legitimate game for the artillery of their rhetoric, and their public character does not in the least suffer from this literary sport. Why should then Indian administrators object to public criticisms of their conduct and seek to gag the mouths of their critics!

THE FAMINE POLICY.

LORD NAPIER and Ettrick called the attention of the House of Lords to famine mortality in the Presidency of Madras and in the province of Mysore. After referring to past famines His Lordship said, "in 1876, there was a mixed state of feeling, namely, that while there was every willingness on the part of the Government to assist the distressed districts, the Government in India were very much hampered by the instructions sent out with respect to the necessity of strict economy in the administration. What the Government seemed to have thought was that it was not wise to hamper the future resources of India to such an extent as would be absolutely necessary if the same system were pursued, and the noble lord complained that the action of the Madras Government had been twice superseded by the Home Government." Referring to Mysore His Lordship reminded the House that "Mysore was a name associated with many great names and noble reminiscences. It was, indeed, classic ground, and if there was any part of India in which no person should have died of starvation it was that of Mysore. It had, or ought to have, a full trained body of natives in the Indian Civil Service, and it was the seat of one of the best organised military stations in India. Not only was there no want of agencies, but no want of means of communication, the whole district being pierced with railways, roads, and rivers, together with a large number of irrigation works on which a vast number of the population might have been employed. In February 1877, the district of Mysore was visited by Sir R. Temple, who then thought that the system of the administration of famine relief was in a satisfactory manner; and again in April last, five months afterwards the Viceroy visited the district and in a letter (dated in September) to the Secretary of State, he gave a totally different account, and stated that everything was in confusion, that the system of relief was being badly administered and system of relief was a dreadful amount of starvation. The most horrifying accounts had reached him, and amongst them one to the effect that in one district in Mysore at least a third of the population had disappeared, and that the highways and fields in Mysore were literally full of bones. The conclusion he drew was that the whole system of famine relief should he reorganised. The other day he heard the noble lord describe the state of wretchedness to which the population of Asia Minor were subject under the tyranny of Turkey, and drew a parallel between the state of that population and that of India under British rule;

but thought he felt a natural pride at the contrast drawn, he was a little chilled by his reflection of the sufferings of the population of Mysore, where we had governed for nearly a hundred years; and he thought that the Government, having silenced the Native Press of India, were bound to tell the truth, and the whole truth. He did not in the least degree wish to incriminate the Government but simply to point out the necessity of making some reform in the administration of famine relief."

Lord Cranbrook in reply denied "that there had been the least concealment in regard to the calamity in Mysore. The difficulty his Lordship said was to get at the exact truth, and surely it was better not to publish returns which could not be relied on." His Lordship quite admitted that "some negligence had been shown by some of the officials of Mysore, and the system of relief had not been so well managed there as in Madras, but the Home Government had joined with the Indian Government in censuring that neglect. He admitted with sorrow and shame that any Government could not meet the distress which ensued, but it was enormous, and the first thing the natives did in times of famine was to desert their families and disappear. Returns had been promised in the House of Commons, and he had himself moved for them on this subject, and they would be placed upon their lordships' table, but he warned the House that they would be by no means conclusive upon the question. No doubt the sufferings of the population of Madras and Mysore had been extreme, but he was glad to find from information that he had received to-day that there was both for Madrass and Bombay a far better prospect this year than there was last, or the previous one."

Now, the question is if there were so much suffering and mortality in Mysore, was Lord Napier wrong in condemning the local officers? What did Sir Richard Temple see when he reported that all that was necessary to be done was being done? How was it that Lord Lytton saw a different state of things five months after? Who was to blame for the sad mismanagement, which prevailed during this period? The people of this country cannot feel too grateful to the British Government for its generous exertions in alleviating distress during the late famine. Indeed, it is doubtful whether any other Government could have accomplished so much as it did. Its administrative organizations, its vast resources, and its humanity achieved a moral victory, of which any nation might well be proud. But the neglect of Mysore till the advent of Lord Lytton is a dark spot on the bright page of famine administration in India by the British Government. And English statesmen, who are justly jealous of the good name of the British nation, deserve our gratitude when in the name of humanity they call upon the Indian Government to render an account of their stewardship in such calamitous times as the famine. Indeed, it is manifestations of the conscience of England in this manner, which are calculated to preserve the good name of England untarnished, and fill the Indian subjects of the British Crown with hope and confidence. The world is not destined to receive a faithful history of the late Famine in India, but if the Famine Commission does its duty, we may receive some glimpses of the real truth.

THE BENGAL POLICE.

THE Resolution of the Bengal Government on the last administration report of the Police is a remarkable one. It is lucid, comprehensive, searching and incisive. It does not mince matters The Lieutenant Governor gracefully acknowledges the punctuality, with which the report has been submitted. The average cost of the purely civil police throughout the province was about seven pies per head of population. In Behar the cost per head was 5·2, in Bengal proper 7·5, in Orissa 10·1, and in Chota Nagpore 10·4 pies. The proportion of police to area was 1 to 7·2 square miles in Orissa, 1 to 8 in Bengal, 1 to 10·7 in Behar, and 1 to 21·2 in Chota Nagpore. The proportion to population was 1 to 2,365 in Orissa, 1 to 2,510 in Chota Nagpore, 1 to 3,716 in Bengal, and 1 to 4,958 in Behar. During the current year Mr. Monro has made careful local enquiries in Bengal, Behar, and Chota Nagpore, as well as in Orissa, and has effected reductions representing a saving of Rs. 1,66,200 per annum. May we venture to express a hope that the Government will be pleased to publish Mr. Monro's report on the reduction of Police expenditure. It is feared that the reductions have been too sweeping, and far greater in the subordinate than in the superior grades, which may weaken the efficiency of the Police as an institution. Perhaps the best means of combining economy with efficiency would be to revise the present system of Police administration. The question is whether the District Superintendent of Police is a necessary and useful agent when the Magistrate is practically the head of the Police. We do not know whether this question has been discussed by Government in carrying out its scheme for the reduction of Police expenditure. The more we see the working of the new Police under the limitations imposed from time to time, the more are we convinced that the District Superintendent is an expensive superfluity.

Of the working of the new Chowkidari system the Inspector General does not speak very confidently. It is, however, observable, that, with the exception of the Commissioner of Chittagong, no other Commissioner has taken objection to the working of the Act. Mr. Beames considers that it "is a complete mistake and not calculated to work well anywhere, least of all in a litigious district like Chittagong." These objections, though so confidently put forward, appear to the Lieutenant Governor "to rest on theory only, as he at the same time reports that the Act has not yet had a fair trial in his division." In the Presidency, Rajshahye, Dacca, Patna, and Bhagulpore Divisions the Act is reported to have worked on the whole satisfactorily. Purneah and Sarun appear to be the only districts where comparative failure has resulted, but in Sarun at least this seems to have been the fault of the local officers. It is observed that the Deputy Inspector-General of Police found in Rajshahye that many chowkidars had not been paid for months. We fear this complaint is not confined to Rajshahye. The Lieutenant Governor justly remarks that if Magistrates, Sub-divisional Magistrates, and Police Officers would only take the trouble to make thorough periodical examinations of the accounts of a few villages selected at random, the one serious reproach to the working of the Act would disappear. A fair test of the efficiency and honest working of the Police is the number of convictions obtained in cases reported by it. The total number of cases under enquiry during the year was 110,632. Of these, 14,627 were declared false, and 8,595 were not enquired into. In 33,266 out of the remaining 87,410, or 38.05 per cent., convictions were obtained. The percentages of convictions in 1875 and 1876 were 38·9 and 39·2 respectively. These results, as Mr. Monro justly remarks, are unsatisfactory. Of 94,318 persons arrested, 55,977 or 59·3 per cent. were convicted, against 59, per cent. in 1876. The convictions and acquittals of persons actually put on trial compare unfavourably with those of the previous year. Convictions were 61·6 per cent. against 62, and acqittals 34·1 per cent. against 33. This is very unsatisfactory. The percentages of convictions to arrests in the different divisions were, Burdwan 66, Chittagong 66, Patna 63, Presidency 61, Rajshahye 61, Bhagulpore 61, Chota Nagpore 60, Orissa 58, Dacca 57. The best results were obtained in Howrah (79) Patna (72), and 24-Pergunnahs (71). Less than half the number arrested were convicted in Backergunge (43), Mymensingh (46), Sarun (47), Balasore (47), Gurjhats (48), Jessore (48). The statement showing the results of investigations by the police is very unfavourable to Rungpore, Backergunge, and Pooree, where only 26·5, 27·2, and 29·7 respectively of cases investigated were successful. The Resolution says:

"While the Lieutenant-Governor is quite satisfied that the importance of Magisterial control and scrutiny of the action of the police in investigating cases cannot be exaggerated, certain recent circumstances appear to indicate that judicial officers, particularly sub-divisional officers, sometimes forget the distinction that exists between an investigation and an enquiry under the Criminal Procedure Code. The former process is the informal method prescribed for the police in ascertaining the facts of the case: the latter is a judicial proceeding which, under section 6, must be held according to the provisions of the Code. There is perhaps no provision of the law so conducive to efficient action as that which permits local enquiries by Magistrates; but the essential value of this form of procedure arises precisely from the circumstance that it is conducted by a judical officer. The Magistrate holding an enquiry on the spot can recieve and record the evidence as it is discovered, before the witnesses can be tutored or intimidated, with opportunities of gauging the value of their testimony and of mastering the circumstances of the case which must often be entirely wanting in his distant cutcherry. But it is very different where a Magistrate assumes the functions of a police officer and holds an informal investigation which he afterwards developes into a judical enquiry in his court-house. This procedure is unauthorised by law, unsatisfactory in results, and unfavourable to judical fairness. The Lieutenant-Governor would encourage to the utmost prompt and careful local enquiries by Magistrate in serious cases; but such enquiries, to be useful, must be conducted according to the law.

As to the criminal character of the several divisions made in the Bengal Government the Lieutenant Governor remarks that the Dacca division is the worst. His Honor says:

The turbulence of this division is a matter for serious consideration. Backergunge and Mymensingh had each about four riots a week, and in the former district one person was murdered by rioters every month. The Magistrate of Backergunge, however, appears to look upon this state of things as a condition of tolerable public tranquility. He reports that "no man remembers a rice-cutting season to have passed away so peaceably." It is quite clear to the Lieutenant-Governor that the criminal administration of Backergunge has been allowed to fall into great disorder; and that there has been a want of really vigorous and intelligent control. It says little for the efficiency of the preventive measures adopted that, while security to keep the peace was demanded from no less than 6·14 persons, and 21 parties of punitive police were employed, the number of riots decreased only from 207 to 199. It is useless to demand security from large numbers of persons if the real movers in these disturbances are not touched. What is most required is that the Magistrate should personally sift the causes of local disputes, prevent riots, if possible, by demanding security from those really responsible for the preservation of the peace, and benefiting by the lawless acts of their servants and dependents, and when outbreaks do occur that he should make a signal example of the offenders. It is of no use punishing servants and villagers engaged in affrays if those who employ them to commit these affrays escape unpunished.

Referring to river dacoity the Lieutenant Governor makes some caustic remarks, which we give below:

In Backergunge only two cases resulted in conviction. These statistics are extremely unsatisfactory. There is no doubt much force in what is urged regarding the difficulty of bringing the offenders in river dacoities to justice; and, indeed, if the apathy of the people is not exaggerated, it may be apprehended that many of the cases that occur are not reported at all. But the Lieutenant-Governor has read with no little surprise that the Inspector-General has abandoned all hope of obviating these difficulties, except by the adoption of a procedure which the Lieutenant-Governor has in the plainest terms condemned. The Inspector-General says that "the only remedy left for adoption by the police is prevention—prevention by shutting up notorious bad characters, such as are in the dacoit villages on the Mudhomati and other large rivers in Eastern Bengal." Mr. Monro appears to overlook the fact that, up to the middle of last year, something like this procedure was followed with the result that there was the same number of river dacoities in 1877 as in 1875. The precise figures for 1876 have not been given. On the general policy so persistently advocated by Mr. Monro, the Lieutenant-Governor will have more to say further on. With special reference, however, to Mr. Monro's remarks on river dacoity, he must warn all police officers against adopting the view that, if large numbers of persons are not locked up to keep them from committing this crime, prevention is impossible. It is difficult to conceive a more humiliating confession than the statement that to prevent river dacoity it is necessary to place in confinement all those whom the police suspect in the villages on the large rivers. No doubt if all the people with criminal propensities were put in jail, police administration would be simple: but, as the police are required for the detection and apprehension of the guilty only, it is necessary to restrict their operations. If a man is

denounced by his fellows as a notorious criminal, of course the provisions of the law should be put in force against him. But for the general maintenance of order amongst the population at large something else is required. Provisions which were intended for special application must not be put to wholesale use. The Patrols may be weak, but that is no reason for confessing that they must be hopelessly inefficient; still less is it a reason that they should not be strengthened. If the police are so thoroughly well acquainted with the disturbers of the peace that they can prove general bad characters against them individually, it is difficult to understand why they cannot watch them and let them know that they are watched. If they would utilize the knowledge they are said to possess in apprehending a few real dacoits, it would be unnecessary for the Inspector-General to advocate a system of wholesale terrorism.

In the same spirit His Honor thus remarks on the working of the bad livelihood sections:

The Lieutenant-Governor cannot observe without regret the attitude which the Inspector-General has assumed in regard to this question. The following sentences may be quoted as showing the general tone which he has adopted in dealing with it. "All that I can say at present is that the bad characters, and their protectors in most of the districts, are fully aware of the change of policy, and will no doubt take advantage of it for their own ends. The orders of Government will of course be carried out, and at the end of 1878 I shall be better able to point to the effect which the carrying out of those orders has had on crime." The Lieutenant-Governor regrets that Mr. Monro should have thought proper to express himself thus as the head of the department responsible for the police administration of the province. If the bad characters enjoy undue liberty, and make a bad use of it, it can only be that the Lieutenant-Governor's orders are not carried out and that the police are, in Mr. Monro's opinion, absolutely inefficient in the detection of crime. Sir Ashley Eden has in no way declared that the provisions of the law are to be treated as a dead letter; what he did say was that they were intended only for a state of circumstances to which they have not been restricted. They were intended as aids to police administration, and not as substitutes for ordinary preventive and detective action. They were never intended to serve as a cloak for the indulgence of the police in sloth and for the gratification of malice, or as a screen for inefficiency. That they have been so used, the record of police administration for the past two years amply proves. It is plainly demonstrated by the figures that the police in their efforts to save themselves trouble, and to swell their lists of convictions, have employed an engine intended for the repression of special crime in harassing all against whom they hav been able to get up cases of bad livelihood without regard to their real innocence or guilt.

We entirely concur and hope the Inspector General will loyally co-operate with the Lieutenant Governor in putting down the cruel tyranny of the Police in the name of the law. The Lieutenant Governor thus concludes his Resolution:

The conduct of the police has been generally good. Isolated instances of grave misconduct have occurred but the sweeping condemnations so often passed upon the force have not been justified. Great dangers are thrown in their way owing to special circumstances, to the facilities which their position affords them for petty oppression, and to the apathy with which the people as a body, especially in the outlying districts, accept as inevitable some abuse of official power. Where gross maladministration has occurred, it has generally been the result of the absence of effective supervision on the part of the superior officers.

If the police are not looked after, they do not rise above the traditional weaknesses of imperfectly educated officials dealing with an uneducated people, and malpractices of all kinds are naturally fostered. If they see their superiors apathetic and dilatory, they readily take advantage of the latitude allowed them but if they are carefully watched and guided, and are encouraged to honest work by the certainty of appreciation and reward, they can, and do, perform most excellent service. The Lieutenant-Governor need not now repeat all that was said in the last Resolution on the paramount necessity of frequent and full inspections by superior officers. That police will always show the best results whose head controls them not only by scrutiny of their records, but by constantly moving about among the people and taking due cognizance of complaints. There can be no more certain way of demoralizing the police than refusing to believe any evil of them under false ideas of loyalty to subordinates; and those are the most efficient Superintendents who, while protecting their men from unjust censure and malicious attack, are the most ready to investigate readily any reasonable complaint.

Quite true. We have often said that the character of the Police depends much on its superior officers. Just as the head moves the other limbs move.

PRICES OF FOOD-GRAINS IN INDIA.

THE Financial Department of the Government of India has published a valuable volume relating to the prices of food-grains in India. The information given is certainly incomplete; only a few chief towns have been taken to represent the whole province or Presidency, but so far it goes it is without doubt very valuable. We cannot understand why only a few chief towns have been selected for the purpose. The following table of prices, which we have compiled from this volume, ranging over sixteen years, that is to say from 1861 to 1876, shews how the prices have varied. We give rice first:

	Number of seers to the rupee.			
DISTRICTS.	1861.	1866.	1871.	1876.
Madras.				
Ganjam ...	20·30	9·30	18 20	22·53
Vizagapatam ...	18·10	10·00	14·88	12 57
Bellary ...	13·30	8 30	15·43	9 92
Tanjore ...	15·90	11·30	19 92	10·67
Tinnevelly ...	10·90	8·50	14·09	9·15
Coimbatore ...	11 10	8.60	15·87	10·18
Salem ...	12·70	10·30	19·69	10·66
Bombay.				
Bombay ...	9·37	4·31	7·33	9·05
Ahmedabad ...	9·15	5·99	9 66	8 70
Surat ...	8·51	5·16	6·17	9·19
Khandesh (Dhulia ...	13·50	2·75	9 91	9 07
Ahmadnager ...	9·50	5 50	8·67	8·87
Belgaum ...	13·35	6·64	13·35	11·92
Karachi ...	15·06	12 50	10 95	8 75
Shikarpur ...	17·58	13·69	13·18	12.00
Bengal				
Burdwan ...	20·53	9·79	25·74	22 24
Midnapore ...	31·96	9·56	24·66	23·53
Calcutta ...	19·55	11·40	20·00	12·28
Moorshedabad ...	22·86	11·43	23·14	18·69
Dinagepore ...	32·35	24·69	33·90	21·80
Dacca ...	37·50	11·22	23·08	19·44
Backergunge ...	24·26	10·73	20 87	18·88
Chittagong ...	28·69	26·36	23·28	13 74
Patna ...	28·46	17·35	22·89	17·57
Mozufferpore ...	22 45	10 20	19·62	14·35
Manghyr ...	23 73	21·43	24·04	16·96
Purneah ...	30·62	16·33	29·03	18·23
Cuttack ...	33·45	8·34	26·96	24·16
Hazareebaugh ...	23 98	9·08	24·20	18·60
Assam				
Sylhet ...	32·66	13·06	24·28	15·87
Cachar ...	49·89	8·39	21·80	16·71
Goalpara ...	27·99	18·66	15·93	16·91
Lakhimpur ...	14·93	13·06	15·00	10·66
N. W. Provinces.				
Mozuffurnagar ...	11·00	12·00	16·64	17·58
Saharanpur ...	9·00	14.50	11·95	12·32
Meerut ...	9·50	9.50	...	13·13
Bareilly ...	14·50	12·50	19 82	12·31
Agra ...	12·25	10·50	13·58	9·05
Cawnpore ...	12·25	12·00	17·07	13 92
Allahabad ...	12·50	10·50	15·62	15·95
Mirzapore ...	18·00	10·50	16·46	15·05
Punjab.				
Delhi ...	13·87	10·26	12·57	14·57
Ludhiana ...	9.09	10·38	7·32	12·40
Amritsar ...	12·13	11·19	..	13·39
Rawalpindi ...	9·38	7·69	6·35	12·00
Mooltan ...	11·95	10·03	7·33	10·59
Peshawar ...				
Oudh.	16·09	8·57	6·04	12·99
Lucknow ...	16·25	10 50	15·68	13·37
Fyzabad ...	16·00	14 50	16·04	25·72
Sultanpur ...	21·25	9·50	20·93	17·00
C. Provinces				
Nagpur ...	20·00	9·00	14·77	12 86
Jabbulpur ...	23·00	9·00	13·72	17·5
Raipur ...	33·00	15·00	27·17	30·49
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.				
Secundrabad ...	15·25	8·50	..	10·90
Akola ...	12,10	5·50	...	8·74
Mysore.				
Mysore ...	14·12	9·75	12·00	10·43

We next turn to wheat:

DISTRICTS.	1861.	1866.	1871.	1876.
Madras				
Gajam ...	14·10	6·70	...	16·81
Vizagapatam ...	13·00	9·00	...	16·79
Bellary ...	12·20	3·90	...	11·57
Tanjore ...	7·50	5·50	...	8·34
Tinnevelly ...	6·60	4·90	...	8·35
Coimbatore ...	8·30	5·60	..	9·61
Salem ...	8·60	6·20	...	9·55
Bombay				
Bombay ...	12·60	6·50	9·19	11·64
Ahmedabad ...	13·77	7·99	9·81	15·93
Suart ...	13·60	5·62	9·93	12 46
Khandesh (Dhulia) ...	19·00	7·00	15 56	16·22
Ahmadnagar ...	18·50	10·50	14·30	16·95
Belgaum ...	16·00	5·29	9·34	14 07
Karachi ...	19 68	11·75	11·67	13·06
Shikarpur ...	16·11	16·06	12·80	18·14
Bengal.				
Burdwan ...	16·79	10·03	20·37	17 10
Midnapore ...	14·93	9·33	14·04	18·91
Calcutta ...	16·76	11·66	15·91	17 13
Moorshedabad ...	20·99	11·19	21·21	22·17
Dinagepore ...	19 49	7·55	16·91	17·20
Dacca ...	17·86	9·95	14·93	17·33
Backergunge (Burisaul) ...	16·79	13·06	13·08	...
Chittagong ...	13·52	13·01	20·03	12·04
Patna ...	23·24	10·54	23·94	25·39
Mozufferpore ...	25 51	10·20	19·90	19·74
Monghyr ...	24·24	19·80	24·50	24·33
Purneah ...	22·45	10·20	20·56	21·62
Cuttack ...	20·97	1·61	13·83	19·80
Hazareebaugh ...	16·63	7·04	21·13	19·35
Assam.				
Sylhet ...	11·19	7·46	13·31	15·00
Cachar ...	9·07	5·89	...	12 07
Goalpara ...	32·66	24·26	29·66	22·33
Lakhimpur ...	11·19	10·26	10·66	8·00
N W Provinces				
Mozuffernagar ...	12·00	23·75	27·14	25·69
Saharanpur ...	9·50	20·50	25·56	24·93
Meerut ...	16·00	23·50	24·35	25·83
Bareilly ...	15·00	14·00	25·93	25·06
Agra ...	14·25	15·50	22·56	24 95
Cawnpore ...	17·25	14·00	24·11	25·10
Allahabad ...	20·00	13·00	19·57	24 33
Mirzapur ...	25·00	13·00	19·18	22·17
Punjab				
Delhi ...	15·86	18·48	27·41	25·71
Ludhiana ...	14·92	22·56	26·13	24 59
Amritsar ...	17·08	22 05	..	24·24
Rawalpindi ...	29·04	22·86	17 92	32·48
Mooltan ...	15·62	15·86	16·49	19·76
Peshawar ...	22·86	22·80	13·34	24·76
Cudh				
Lucknow ...	20 50	13·25	22·81	27·61
Fyzabad ...	25·00	13·75	24·56	25·95
Sultanpur ...	28·50	19·00	23·25	27 90
Central Provinces				
Nazpur ...	29 00	9 00	18·43	22·41
Jubbulpur ...	25·00	13·00	22·87	26·53
Raipur ...	48·00	20·00	38·15	53·74
Hyderabad Assigned Districts				
Secundrabad ...	18·25	8·25	...	18·39
Akola ...	23·70	8.30	..	20·37
Mysore and Coorg				
Mysore ...	12·00	5·75	4·25	8·92
Coorg ...	...	13·25	9 00	7·55

The next item is great millet (Cholum Bajra):

DISTRICTS	1861.	1866.	1871.	1876.
Madras				
Ganjam ...	33 80	11·90	33·61	27·10
Vizagapatam ...	34·80	17·40	28·62	23·09
Bellary ...	24·70	10·80	34·70	17·63
Tanjore ...	25·80	17·00	34·34	23·75
Tinnevelly ...	20·90	12·20	29·38	...
Coimbatore ...	21·70	13·10	31·92	17·75
Salem ...	20·70	16·10	44·23	18·02
Bombay				
Bombay ...	19.06	11·16	15·83	18·67
Ahmedabad ...	21·50	17·92	14·34	21·21
Surat ...	18 21	14·99	11·61	14·74
Khandesh (Dhulia) ...	33 50	17·75	21·90	23·41
Ahmadnagar ...	31 50	24 00	22·22	23·96
Belgaum ...	19·21	8·41	21·04	16 58
Karachi ...	26·37	15·00	16·72	19·50
Shikarpur ...	28·05	19·47	19·43	20·60
Bengal				
Patna ...	44·33	18·37	33·40	30·00
Mozufferpore ...	15·73	13·26	...	..
Monghyr ...	35·72	30·87	30·50	..
Purneah ...	32·65	25·19	32·83	...
Hazareebaugh ...	28·47	14·18	32·50	...
N W Provinces				
Mozuffernagar ...	8·25	24·75	33·25	29·34
Saharunpore ...	12·50	25·50	32·39	26·23
Meerut ...	15·75	23·50	...	28·00
Bareilly ...	21·75	23·00	30·00	33·33
Agra ...	20·00	25·75	26·88	29·51
Cawnpur ...	21·50	21·50	24·24	38·32
Allahabad ...	25·00	24·50	22·57	23·77
Mirzapur ...	29 00	18·00	22·83	30·00
Punjab				
Delhi ...	20·58	25·42	31·13	32·08
Ludhiana ...	16·79	26 88	35·94	36·28
Amritsar ...	17 55	24·37	...	32·26
Rawalpindi ...	27·99	23·96	31 82	42·00
Mooltan ...	16·32	18·25	26·75	25·00
Peshawar ...	40·12	32·07	18·91	28·28
Oudh				
Lucknow ...	25·00	15·25	23·44	41·53
Fyzabad ...	32·00	18·50	35·78	43·01
Sultanpore ...	32·00	30·50	21·00	40·00
Central Provinces				
Nagpur ...	36·00	12·00	22·41	30·32
Jubbulpore ...	20·00	17·00	23·12	30·22
Hyderabad Assigned Districts				
Secundrabad ...	27·75	11·00	...	23·60
Akola ...	27·50	19·50	...	35·00
Mysore				
Mysore ...	27·80	29·60	34·20	15·43

The last item is Bulrush Millet (Camboo Bajra):

DISTRICTS.	1861.	1866.	1871.	1876.
Madras,				
Ganjam ...	37·00	16·40	...	...
Vizagapatam ...	33·40	17·00	...	24·17
Bellary ...	22 40	10·10	...	16·52
Tanjore ...	26·00	17 50	..	22·65
Tinnevelly ...	19·30	11·30	...	17·44
Coimbatore ...	26·00	14·00	...	18·91
Salem ...	19·80	16·50	...	19·21
Bombay				
Bombay ...	14·79	8·82	11·47	15·19
Ahmedabad ...	18·56	17·96	12·72	19·63
Surat ...	15·26	13·50	11·72	14·20
Khandesh (Dhulia) ...	25·00	13·00	18·72	19·66
Ahmadnagar ...	30·50	24·00	15·92	18·71
Belgaum ...	19·12	8·27	22·	17·44
Karachi ...	25·43	14·37	15 57	16·17
Shikarpur ...	28 31	20·62	23·19	27·27
N. W. Provinces				
Mozuffernagar ...	7·75	20·00	31·02	25·21
Saharanpur ...	16·00	20·00	30.88	24·21
Meerut ...	17·25	20·00	28·37	28·96
Bareilly ...	20·50	30·00	27·01	31·25
Agra ...	20·00	25·75	22·04	29·89
Cawnpur ...	21·50	20·50	25·39	36·11

Allahabad	...	22·00	23 25	18·60	33·11
Mirzapur	..	31 00	16·00	20·82	29·00
Punjab.					
Delhi	..	22 21	23·21	27·57	30·11
Ludhiana	...	15·10	22·39	27·94	29·89
Amritsar	...	18·42	22·86	...	25·24
Rawalpindi	...	37·38	27 99	26·32	43·91
Mooltan	...	15·86	19·24	23·17	23·00
Peshwar	...	30·09	20·06	17 69	26·64
Oudh.					
Lucknow	...	25·50	16·00	21·56	38·48
Fyzabad	...	26·75	14·00	23·71	23·66
Sultanpur	...	28·50	23·00	22·40	35·00
Central Provinces.					
Nagpur	...	17·00	11·00	...	...
Jubbulpore	...	20·00	11·00	...	20·95
Hyderabad Assigned District.					
Secundrabad	...	23·00	15·50	...	24·51
Akola	...	29·50	13·00	...	21·00

It will be seen from the above that the price of rice has greatly risen within the last sixteen years. The price of wheat a id millet has been pretty stationary. It would have been well if the returns of wages of labour and agricultural profits had been given at the same time. One thing is however notorious. The rise in the prices of provisions is telling seriously upon the middle classes, which live upon fixed incomes. The pressure is so great that they can hardly make the two ends meet comfortably. As for saving it is now out of the question. The condition of the poor middle class is truly pitiable.

MAHARANI SHURNOMOYE.

MANY of the great families of Bengal at the present day owed their rise to the rise of British power in this country. The family which Maharani Shurnomoye so nobly represents was founded by Kanta Babu, as he was popularly called, at the time, and under the auspices, of Warren Hastings. The seat of this family is in Cossim Bazar in the district of Moorshedabad. Many were the acts of beneficience of this family, but they have all been surpassed by the benefactions of Maharani Shurnomoye. She is in fact the Miss Burdett Coutts of Bengal. In consideration of her public spirit and munificent charities the Government had from time to time signified its approbation of her character and public services by conferring upon her titles of distinction. But the crowning act has come from our beloved sovereign direct. Her Imperial Majesty has been pleased to confer upon the Maharani the honor of the Crown of India, an honor which has not been bestowed upon any other Indian subject. On the 14th instant a grand durbar was held at the family residence of the Maharani, at which Mr. Peacock, the officiating Commissioner of the Presidency Division, presented her with the insignia of the new Order. In presenting the insignia Mr. Peacock made this graceful address:

I have been deputed by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who regrets his inability to do it in person, to deliver to you, in the Queen's name the Insignia of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India which Her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon you as a mark of her royal favour and esteem.

"Your appointment to the Order is in recognition of the public spirit as well as of the munificent charity you have at all times and in so many ways displayed. There are doubtless many who hear me to-day, who are far better acquainted than I am, not only with your good deeds, but with the manner in which your vast estates are managed, but there may be some who are not so well informed on these points and who, while knowing your reputation for charity, have but an idea of its scope or of its nature. Under these circumstances it will not, I think, be out of place, if I mention a few of those acts of benevolence and liberality which have procured for you this signal mark of Her Majesty the Empress's approbation. It would not be difficult for me to recount the doings of your long past years, which have, with those that have followed, made your life one long act of charity. It will be sufficient for my purpose if I confine myself to the history of the last few years. Turning to these I have found the following instances of your liberality, and I allude to these particularly because they serve to illustrate what I have already said about the wideness of its scope.

In 1871-72 you contributed 3,000 Rs. to the Chittagong Sâilors' home; Rs. 1,000 to the Midnapur High School; Rs. 1,000 to the Calcutta Chadni-Hospital; Rs. 1,000 to the improvement of the river Bhoirab in Jessore; Rs. 1,000 to the relief of distress in Murshidabad.

In 1872-73, you gave Rs. 1,500 to the Bethune Female School; Rs. 500 to the Bogra Institution, Rs. 8,000 to the new Native Hospital; Rs 1,500 to the relief of sufferers from epidemic fever, and Rs. 1,000 to the construction of the Baharamganj road.

In 1874-75 you contributed, amongst other things, upwards of a lack and ten thousand Rupees towards the relief of distress in Murshidabad, Dinajpur, Bogra, Pabna, 24 Parganas, Nadiya, and Bardwan.

The following year you gave Rs. 10,000 to the Berhampore College; Rs. 5,000 to the Rajshahi Madrassa; Rs. 2,000 to the Kattak College; Rs. 500 to the Garo Hills Dispensary.

In 1876-77, you contributed Rs. 1,000 to the Calcutta Female School established by Miss Milman; Rs. 4,000 to the Rangpur High School; Rs. 1000 to the Aligarh College; Rs. 14,000 to the Calcutta Zoological Garden; Rs. 8000 to the Association of famine in Calcutta; Rs. 3,000 to the sufferers from the cyclone in Bakarganj. Finally, during the past year, you have given Rs. 11,121 for purchasing warm clothing for the poor; Rs. 500 to the Jangipore dispensary; Rs. 10,000 to the Madras Famine Relief Fund; Rs. 1,000 to the Temple Native Asylum: Rs. 500 to the Howrah dispensary; Rs. 3 000 to the Calcutta Oriental Seminary; Rs. 1,000 to the sufferers by fires which occurred in Nadiya and Bankura; Rs. 500 to the Calcutta District Charitable Society; Rs 1,000 to the McDonald Indian Association; Rs. 1,000 to Miss Fendal's Institution for fallen women.

Such is a rather long but by no means an exhaustive list of your benefactions during the past few years. I say that is by no means a comprehensive list, because I have purposely omitted from it many items such as subscriptions to memorials and the like that would not be mentioned here.

Considerable as the list is, aggregating above Rs. 2,00,000, it is largely exceeded by the small donations to school libraries, dispensaries and to the relief of the poor and distressed during the same period, which amount to more than 3 lacs of Rupees. Thus during the years to which I have referred, you have contributed nearly 5¼ lakhs of rupees to works of charity and public utility which does not fall short of 1-6th of your entire income. Large, however, as this amount undoubtedly is it is not so much as the manner in which it has been given that makes it conspicuous. In the country we are spasmodic to see a good deal of what I may call spasmodic money-giving where large sums are frequently given to purposes no doubt very good and very useful, but which are aided not so much because they are so as because the donors hope to bring their names before the public, or obtain some future reward. This has not been your case. You have not been content to wait till you were asked to give, but have taken steps to ensure worthy objects for assistance being brought to your notice, and have then given liberally, hoping for nothing in return. In a word your charity has been such as springs from a simple unostentatious desire to do good, where the left hand knoweth not what the right hand doeth; which is as admirable as I fear it is uncommon. Of the management of your large estates lying in no less than 10 districts in Bengal and the North Western Provinces, I need say but little. In this you have always taken an active part and have manifested an acquaintance with detail and an aptitude for business generally, almost if not quite without parallel among persons of your sex in this country. The consequence is that, aided by your able adviser, Babu Rajib Lochun Rai, you have, while securing the rents to which you are justly entitled, done so without harassing or oppressing your rayats, have thus escaped those difficulties and complications into which so many landowners have of late years fallen. For myself I need not say that the duty which I am called upon to perform to-day is one that gives me great pleasure; for both as Magistrate of the 24-Parganas and as Commissioner of the Dacca Division, I have had no more than one occasion reason to thank you for assistance freely liberally given on projects which I had in view; and I cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking you for the aid you afforded to the sufferers from that fearful calamity which on the 31st October 1876 swept over the southern portion of the district of Backarganj, carrying death and destruction with it, leaving behind it distress and misery, from which it will be long before the sufferers fully recover. It now only remains for me, Maharani, to hand to you the insignia of the order to which Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint you with the congratulatory letters of His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and to express the hope that you may live long in all prosperity to enjoy the honor you have now attained and which you have worthily deserved."

Maharani Shurnomoye is a typical Hindu lady. Though not educated in the literature and sciences of the East or West, she has been educated in that which is of the highest moment to society and humanity—in the noble science of relieving distress, of wiping the widow's tears, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, sheltering the houseless, helping the poor student and the struggling author, and ministering to the relief and comforts of the sick. She has no issues of her own, and so she looks upon the human family as her own family. Her charity has been both generous and discriminating Under the guidance of her able and sagacious Dewan, Rai Rajiblochun Rai Bahadur, she distributes her gifts with intelligence and judgment. The sun we may say never rises and sets without shining upon some good work done by the Maharani. Such a lady is an honor to her sex, to the country which has given her birth, to humanity at large. In honoring her the Government does honor to virtue, piety, and humanity. May she live long and pursue her career of benevolence is the heart-felt prayer of her countrymen and country-women!

THE SANSKRIT TOLES.

THE recent orders of the Bengal Government to confer academic titles on the students of Sankrit *toles* by holding a public examination annually may go a great way in encouraging Sanskrit learning and nourishing the indigenous institutions for the study of Sanskrit. These institutions have a remarkable history. They are not indebted for their existence to State patronage. They are we may say the natural outgrowth of the religious feelings of the nation. Vidya-dan or the communication of knowledge is regarded as a religious obligation by the Hindus, and as the Brahmins in the olden days monopolized knowledge this duty naturally devolved upon them. But they were nobly assisted by the other castes in the performance of this duty. Lands were freely given by wealthy Hindu gentlemen to learned Brahmins for the promotion of Sanskrit learning and the cultivation of piety. Then on all religious and social occasions handsome presents were given to these Brahmins for like purpose. Learned Brahmins accordingly maintained eleemosynary schools at which students were maintained and brought up free of charge. But since the predominance of the English language in India these Sanskrit *toles* have been languishing. It is strange that while much is being done in Germany, Russia, France, and even England for the cultivation of Sanskrit so little is done in India, the home of Sanskrit. The recent measure under notice, in our humble opinion, may go a great way in reviving the study of Sanskrit. But an annual examination of Sanskrit students will we fear prove barren of results unless it be supplemented with substantial rewards. In order to impart vitality to the proposed examination we are glad to learn Pundit Mahesh Chunder Nayaratna, Principal of the Sanskrit College, has submitted a scheme of rewards to the Director of Public Instruction. We give his scheme in his own words:

With reference to Government Resolution dated Darjeeling the 22nd June 1878 forwarded to me with your office memo. No. 3622 dated Fort William the 8th July 1878, I have the honor to represent that the beneficial effects of the new system of examination instituted would be immensely increased, if the granting of titles were supplemented by the grant of substantial rewards. The *Sanskrit Tole* (or indigenous Sanskrit Schools) have done much good work in their day. They have kept alive Sanskrit learning in the country. The institution possesses great vitality and the Tol system of instruction is likely to endure for a long time yet to come. The Tols are now, however, not the thriving institutions they were at one time, and I humbly think that a little help from the State will greatly improve their efficiency and be gratefully welcomed by the entire Hindu community as a national benefit. Several leading members of Hindu society with whom I have had a conversation on the subject are fully of the same persuasion with me. In fact I have been requested by some of them to move in the matter. A substantial encouragement from Government to Tols cannot fail to be a powerful incentive to private benefactions. The very institution of an examination for conferring Sanskrit titles has induced a Hindu nobleman the Hon'ble Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore to endow a scholarship and to award a medal annually to Tol scholars who may succeed at the examination. I cannot venture to ask for more than an annual grant from Government of Rs. 10,000, and in view of the benefit to be secured in time the amount may not be considered too large.

Should this suggestion meet with your approval I hope you will be pleased to move the Government to take the subject into its favourable consideration.

I beg to enclose below a scheme for the distribution of the grant. The best way of distributing the money would be payment by results—the payment to be made in the shape of reward to successful candidates at the title examination and also to their teachers.

Rewards to the successful candidates.

4	of Rs.	200	each Rs.	800
4	„	150	„ ...	600
12	„	100	„ .	1200
				——2600

Rewards to the teachers*

2	of Rs.	500	each ..	1000
4	„	300	„ ...	1200
8	„	200	„ ..:	1600
30	„	100	„ ...	3000†
				——6800
Fees of 4 examiners at Rs. 100				400‡
Contingencies, stationery &c.				200
Total ...				10,000

* The rewards are to be awarded to those Pandits only with whom the successful candidates have studied for at least six months preceding the examination. The Pandits must produce a certificate to this effect from a Government servant of position and two respectable inhabitants of the place where his Tol is located.

† For some time to come it cannot be expected that a large number of candidates will succeed in obtaining titles. It is desirable, therefore, that teachers whose pupils do fairly at the examination though they fall short of the title-standard should have rewards of the last grade given them.

‡ In case of a Government grant being made it will perhaps be desirable to have outsiders (not being Government servants) for examiners, Rs. 400 therefore has been reserved for that purpose.

Pundit Nayaratna's scheme it will be seen is very moderate. It contemplates an expenditure of Rs. 10,000 annually, which we hope the Government will not grudge. The first Parliamentary grant for national education in India was a lac of rupees for the cultivation of oriental literature. But instruction in oriental literature is now combined with English education. Little or no aid is given to the Sanskrit *toles* or indegenous schools of Sanskrit learning. Pundit Nayaratna's scheme of payment by results will afford some aid to these *toles*. We hope the Government grant will be supplemented by private liberality. The Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotendromohun Tagore has set a good example in this direction, which we hope will be followed by others.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

ON WEDNESDAY last His Honor the Lieutenant Governor left Calcutta for his Behar tour. On his way he touched Barakar, accompanied by some of the Directors of the Bengal Iron Works Company, in order to inspect the Iron Works of the Company. His Honor, it is reported, was much pleased with what he saw. These Iron Works are very important, and if successful will introduce a revolution in the national industry of Bengal. The supply of iron we are told is plentiful, and the works which the Company have turned out are excellent. The Public Works Department and the Railways are drawing a good portion of the articles they require from the foundry of the Company, which we understand propose to direct their attention to wrought iron works. The Company, however, lack capital; they have raised debentures at 8 or 10 per cent interest, which is a too heavy rate for them, and they have consequently applied to Government for money at 4½ per cent interest. The Government of India requested the Lieutenant Governor to inspect the works and report; hence the late visit of His Honor to Barakar. As the prospects of the Works are said to be very promising, we cannot understand why the Company cannot raise the necessary capital from the public. We are disposed to think that they have not sufficiently ventilated the character, position and prospects of their undertaking.

WE HEAR that the Surgeon General of Bengal is too rigorously enforcing the age rule in the appointment of Assistant Surgeon. Under a financial resolution of the Government of India persons above the age of 25 years are not to be admitted into the public service without special orders of the local Government. Now, medical students cannot generally finish their education before 25, for a student is not admitted into the Medical College unless he has passed the First Arts Examination in the University, and then he is not unoften about 20, and as he must pass through a five years' course in the Medical College, to which a year or two should be added for the chances of an examination, he is not unfrequently more than 25 when he obtains the medical degree. If the Government wishes to maintain a high standard in medical education, it ought in common fairness to make an exception of the age rule in the appointment of Assistant Surgeons.

THE WORKING of the License tax in the district of Hooghly, we are informed, has given rise to a serious complaint. Some License tax officers, it seems, have taken it to their heads that persons, selling the produce of their orchards, come under the category of traders, and have accordingly assessed them. According to this view the ryots, who sell the produce of their fields, should be taxed, because they sell their goods, but the law has specifically exempted such persons. While on this subject we may mention a fact, which has been brought to our notice. A poor man in a village in the Hooghly district owned some jack trees, which chiefly supported his family; the License tax officer sent for him, and this poor and iguorant man with a view to bring himself under the exemption clause on the gound of his profits being less than Rs. 100 per annum, cut down three or four jack trees, which ultimately filled him with grief as much as if he had lost so many children. Such is the practical working of the License tax!

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following letter:

To R. H. Pawsey Esq C S Magistrate and Collector Mymensing, Dated 15th August 1878.

SIR,—It has long been my wish to establish a Charitable Dispensary at Muk agacha for the relief of the unfortunate poor. But I had put off this till the expected visit of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was accomplished, and the occasion, of commemorating his visit to the District. But as His Honor has been obliged to postpone his visit to Mymensing indefinitely I beg to make offer of Rs 10,000 (ten thousand), the interest produced from the amount in Government securities, or otherwise will maintain the proposed establishment: And I also beg to offer Rs 2000 (two thousand) for the construction of a *pukka* house for the convenience of the Dispensary.

I beg to request the favor of being permitted to call the dispensary after our able energetic and kind-hearted Magistrate and Collector Mr R H Pawsey.

I have &c.,
Surjakant Acharjee Chowdry Rai Bahadoor.

Babu Surjyakant Acharjea is a young man of much intelligence, good education, and great public spirit. As a zemindar he also bears a good name. He is one of the best fruits of the Wards' Institution.

A FEW months ago we recorded the death of Dr. Elliot from cholera. It is our painful duty to announce the death of Dr. Gayer from the same fell disease. Both of them lived in Chowringhi, the cleanest and healthiest part of the town; both being doctors, knew how to take care of their health, but both succumbed to cholera. The fate of these two eminent doctors suggests the question whether it is the foul water of the tanks, which, as our Health-Officer contends, is the generating cause of cholera. These two gentlemen did not drink or use tank water in any way, and yet they were carried away by cholera! Will Dr. Payne be good enough to explain in the light of these cases his theory that where there has been cholera there must have been foul water?

THE DISTRICTS of Rungpore, Dinagepore and Bogra have equally suffered from the effects of the late inundation. Of Rungpore the Commissioner says that the injury done by the flood is confined to the neighbourhood of the Teesta and Brahmaputra rivers. The distress caused by the inundation has not been such as to necessitate Government relief. The people living on the churs, who had left them after the inundation, have returned to their homes. All that they want is remission or suspension of the rent. They are busy with field-work in transplanting seedlings on low lands. The Gyabanda division has suffered the most, but the people there are not without food, and in most cases they have managed to secure a considerable quantity of grains. In the district of Dinagepore about three annas of the Aus in Nawabgunge and Ranigunge thannas is lost. Amun seedlings though injured were soon transplanted, and for this opportunity was given by the speedy subsidence of the flood. There will be in these tracts a splendid crop of winter rice.

WE CONGRATULATE the *Statesman* on the notice which Parliament is about to take of its exposure of the heartless famine policy of the North West Government. The following interpellations on the subject took place in the House of Commons:

Mr. Fawcett asked the Under-Secretary of State for India when the papers relating to the statistics of mortality caused by the recent famine in Madras and Bombay, and which it was stated on Monday last by the Secretary of State would be laid before Parliament, would be in the hands of members; and whether, considering the statements which have recently appeared in the public journals that the mortality in the North-West as recently as April last exceeded by 100 per cent, its normal rate, the papers to be produced would include statistics on that subject.

Mr. E. Stanhope.—I am much obliged to the hon. member for giving me an opportunity of stating what really happened with regard to this matter. In accordance with the pledge which I had given to this House, I laid these papers upon the table the moment that they arrived, and on the very day on which he spoke my noble friend had also moved for them in the House of Lords. I have seen the proofs of a great part of the return and hope that it will not be long before it is distributed; but we are very anxious not to leave out any facts which throw light upon the subject. At the best, however, the return must give a very imperfect account. As regards the mortality in the North-West, we have just received a despatch from India in which there are two paragraphs referring to this subject. In accordance with the hon. member's wish, they shall be added to the other papers.

AT A MEETING of the Council of the Bethune Society held last Saturday Babu Rajendranath Mitter, Assistant Secretary to the Bengal Government, was appointed Secretary to the Society in the room of Babu Kaylash Chunder Bose deceased, and Babu Bepin Chunder Bose, Assistant Secretary *vice* Kumar Gopendra Krishna resigned. Mr. Tawney was elected President of the Society. All these arrangements are provisional.

WE ARE glad to observe that Mr. Vishwanath Mundlik have been for the fourth time re-elected member of the Bombay Legislative Council. Mr. Morardas Goculdas, the great mill-owner, has also been appointed a member of the local Council. Both the appointments are excellent.

WE CONGRATULATE the projectors of the *Indian Law Magazine*, Bombay, on the first number of their periodical. Its typographical and literary execution is equally excellent. We hope the reading public will adequately patronise this undertaking, which promises to be exceedingly useful.

WE ARE surprised to observe that our contemporary of the *Englishman*, who is generally so fair in the discussion of public questions, should cherish an unreasoning prejudice against the elective system, because sometimes the erratic proceedings of the executive of the Calcutta Municipality conflict with public interests. Our contemporay publishes a letter of complaint from certain inhabitants of Musjidbari Street against the proceedings of the Conservancy Department. The gist of the complaint is contained in the following paragraphs:

1st, That the delay in getting back plans and correct estimates has prevented us from connecting our houses with the public sewer, and that such delay has proved detrimental to our properties.

2nd, That this delay on the part of the Municipality has prevented the street being repaired, and caused and is still causing very great inconvenience to the residents of the street and to the public.

3rd. That as rate-payers and respectable house proprietors, we feel aggrieved at being hauled up on a criminal charge in the Police Court by the officers of the Municipality, who were perfectly aware of our innocence, and who should at all events have known that our houses had not been connected owing to negligence and dilatory proceedings on their part.

The complainants are quite right, but it was the executive and not the Commissioners who were responsible for the proceedings. Our contemporary ought to know that matters of this kind do not ordinarily come before the Commissioners, and yet he remarks, "it is not a little curi-

ous that one of the chief defects of an institution which claims to represent the people, should be the extreme harshness and lack of sympathy which characterises its action in dealing with them." But wherein does the responsibility of the Commissioners lie in this matter? Our contemporary might as well accuse the Lieutenant Governor of torture because a village chowkidar has been found guilty of it.

THE FOLLOWING is the latest telegraphic intelligence from Europe:

London 25th August, The Porte has issued a circular note, in which it refuses to grant extensions of frontier to the Northern Greek Provinces. The London papers and the continental press generally insist on compliance with the proposals agreed to by the Congress. Russia has issued a new internal loan of thirty m llion sterling.

24th,—The *Morning Post* urges decisive action on the part of the Viceroy of India with respect to Cabul, and failing the Ameer's readiness to receive a British Mission, it urges that England should annex Herat and Candahar. Hostilities have been resumed on the Turco-Montenegrin Frontier.

Vienna 24th August.—The Austrian troops on the 21st attacked and routed the enemy after severe fighting at Stolatz. The total Australian loss up to the 16th instant was 973 killed.

Alexandra 24th August,—The Khedive has adhered to the text of the arrangement for the cession of his estates and reduction of his civil list.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Moulvi Abdool Bari Sub-Registrar, Ampta	3	4	0
Baboo Pertapnarain Singh, Culna...	13	4	0
,, Kallachand Bose, Patna...	10	0	0
,, Bishenlal, Barielly...	6	10	0
,, Rutnamony Goopta, Mymensingh ...	13	4	0
,, Kadarnath Mookerjee, Chooadanga ...	6	12	0
,, Gobindchunder Bysak, Mymensingh ...	6	10	0
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,, Denonath Sircar, Cuttack...	20	0	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*August* 21, 1878.

GENERAL.—Baboo Issur Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Alipore, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Midnapore.

Baboo Sitakant Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Basirhat division of the 24-Pergunnahs district, is transferred to Pooree.

Baboo Uma Churn Gangooly, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Narail, Jessore, is appointed to have charge of the Basirhat division of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

Baboo Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhudruck, Balasore, is appointed to have charge of the Narail division of the Jessore district.

Baboo Nobin Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, is appointed to have charge of the Madaripore division of the Furreedpore district.

Mr. A. J. Fraser, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripore, Furreedpore, is appointed to have charge of Bhudruck division of the Balasore district.

In modification of the orders of the 22nd January last, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 23rd idem, Baboo Hurry Mohan Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Ghattal Division of the Midnapore district, is promoted to the Sixth Grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Baboo Hurri Chaitanya Ghose.

The above order will have effect from the date on which the promotion of Baboo Hurri Chaitanya Ghose to the Fifth Grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors took effect.

Mr. J. Tweedie, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for two months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st September next, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. R. Hallett, Officiating Additional Judge, Rajshahye Division, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Distpict and Sessions Judge of Rajshahye during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. Tweedie, or until further orders.

Mr. E. M. Reily, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Rampore Hat Division of the Moorshedabad district, is allowed furlough in India for one year under Section 7, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. A. W. Mackie, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is vested with special appellate powers under Section 87 of the Land Registration Act VII (B.C.) of 1876.

The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State has granted to Mr J. D. Gael, C.S., an extension of three months' leave on medical certificate.

Baboo Hari Mohun Sanyal is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade at Maldah, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Banka Behari Buxee, or until further orders.

Mr. E. B. Harris, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Begoo Serai, in Monghyr, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

In Supersession of the orders of the 24th ultimo, Mr. D. Norton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted to Shahabad, and is appointed to have charge of the Buxar division of that district.

Baboo Issur Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is allowed leave for one month under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Dvija Das Dutt, A.M., is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, *vice* Baboo Nobin Chunder Banerjee, appointed a circle officer under the Bengal License Tax Act, and is posted to Jhenidah, in the district of Jessore.

Mr. L. R. Forbes, Assistant Commissioner, Palamow, in Lohardugga, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Assistant Commissioners, until further orders.

Mr. J. G. Ritchie, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputp Collector, Dumsong, in Darjeeling, is appointed to be an Assistant Commissioner of the Third Grade.

Mr. Ritchie will act in the Second Grade of Assistant Commissioners until further orders.

Mr. W. Macpherson, Officiating District and Sessions Jvdge of Cuttuck, is appointed to be a District and Sessions Judge of the First Grade, *vice* the Hon'ble W. F, McDonell, V. C.

Mr. A. C. Brett, Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Hooghly, is appointed to be a District and Sessions Judge of the Second Grade, *vice* Mr. W. Macpherson.

Baboo Mohendro Chunder Mozoomdar, B.A., Sub-Deputy Collector, Fureedpore is allowed leave for two months and a half, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he availed himself of it.

Baboo Pramatha Nath Basu, B.A., and B.L., is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Julpigoree, *vice* Baboo Nilamber Pal removed.

Mr. D. W. M, Testro, on leave, is appointed to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the First Grode, *vice* Mr. A. C. Brett.

Mr. A. W. Cochran is confirmed in the Second Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, *vice* Mr. D. W. M. Testro.

Mr. Cochran will continue to act as Additional District and Sessions Judge of Chittagong.

Mr. H. G. Sharp is appointed temporarily to be a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Mr. A, W' Cochran.

Mr, Sharp will continue to act in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

POLICE,—Mr H W J Bamber, District Superintendent of Police, Rajshahye, is allowed leave for two months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr C E Gouldsbury Assistant Superintendent of Police Rajshahye, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police, Rajshshye, during the absence, on leave, of Mr H W J Bamber, or until further orders.

EDUCATION,—Mr. A E Gough, B.A, Professor, Presidency College, is appointed to be Principal of the Calcutta Madrassa. Mr Gough will also continue to be a Professor in the Presidency College.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Tenders will be received by the District Engineer, Backergunge up to 10th September for the following stores delivered at Burrisaul :—

12	Teakwood Jilmill doors, 7'6"×4'6"	Outside measurement.	
28	Teakwood beams...	23'0"×0'9"×1'0"	
8	Do.	Do. ...	21'0"×0'11"×0'8"
28	Do.	Do. ...	15'0"×0'6"×0'9"
112	Do.	Do. ...	3'0"×0'4"×0'3"
16	Do.	Do. ...	3'2"×0'4"×0'3"
14	Do.	Do. ...	20'0"×0'4"×0'3"
14	Do.	Do. ...	12'0"×0'4"×0'3"
4	Do.	Do. ...	18'6"×0'4"×0'3"
28	Do.	Do. ...	10'0"×0'3"×0'2"
14	Do.	Do. ...	12'0"×0'3"×0'2"
4	Do.	Do. ...	18'6"×0'3"×0'2"
21	Do.	Do. ...	7'0"×0'3"×0'3"
56	Do.	Do. ...	6'6"×0'3"×0'3"
112	Do.	Do. ...	5'9"×0'3"×0'3"
3000 Sft.	Teakwood planking	each plank to be 11 feet long and 1½ inches thick.	
400 Sft.	Do.	Do.	Each plank to be 17 feet long and 1½ inches thick.

All wood supplied to be properly squared and free from flaws. Tenders to be addressed to the District Engineer, Backergunge and endorsed "Tenders for teakwood" on the left lower corner of their covers. Envelopes so endorsed will be opened on the 10th of September and information will be forwarded to those persons whose tender or tenders have been accepted. The tenders should state the probable date of delivery.

J. K. GLOSER, R.E.
District Engineer.

A Special Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall this day at 4 P. M.. At the close of the Meeting a Special Meeting will be held under Acts II of 1872 and 1875.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

The market Committee now sitting will be happy to receive any complaints or suggestions from the public on any matter connected with the Municipal Market.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Tenders are hereby invited for the execution of repairs and every description of work required by the Road and Conservancy Departments.

The contract or contracts will commence from the 1st of October next and be for one year certain.

Conditions of contract and Schedule of works to be had on application in writing to the Engineer.

Tenders will be received up to the 10th September next and no later date. The Commissioners are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

JAMES KIMBER,
Engineer to the Corporation.

SECTION N.

WARD No. 14.

Circular Road (Lower) 29 to 84.
Cullinga 1st Lane.
Dhurmotolla Street 50 to 114.
European Assylum Lane.
Gardner's Lane.
Hareepara Lane.
Jaun Bazar Street 36 to 107.
Komedan Bagaun Lane.
Moocheeparrah Lane.
Moonshee Didarburi Lane.
Moonshee Wollywoolla's Lane.
Motts Lane 17 to 30.
Moulvi Imdadally's Lane.
Newgeepooker East Lane.
Newgeepooker West Lane.
Peeroo Khanshamah's Lane.
Ram Sunker Roy's Lane.
Serang's Lane.
Shurreef Duftries Lane.
Smiths Lane.
South Cullingah Street 52 to 106.
Taltollah Lane.
Taltola Bazar Street.
Wellesley Street 55 to 90.
Wellesley Square.
Wellesley 1st Lane.
Wellesley 2nd Lane.

Notice is hereby given to the Residents of the above mentioned Streets, that under Sections 10 and 15 of Act 1 (B. C.) of 1878, a list of all persons liable to the Imperial License Tax has this day been published and a copy thereof affixed at the Taltola Police Station and on the walls of each street,

Special notices will be issued to all persons subject to the License fee under classes I. II, III, IV, V, of Schedule B.

Any person mentioned in the list referred to in the Section Ten and objecting to the class or grade in which he is charged may, within thirty days after its publication, or within such further time as the Chairman may in each case think fit, apply by petition to the Chairman, in order to establish his right to have his name transferred to another class or grade or altogether removed from the list.

Any person not paying the amount of the License fee within the prescribed time, will be liable to the penalty prescribed under Section 21 of the Act.

By order
M. R. SHIRCORE,
License Officer.

Notice.

Wanted by the Road Cess Committee, Backergunge a Draughtsman salary Rs. 40 per mensem, who shall be able to ink, copy and color drawings. He will also be required to draw from sketch and to estimate simple designs in masonry and earthwork.

Applications accompanied by copies of testimonials &c., to be forwarded to the undersigned on or before the 15th September next, when the selected candidate will have information sent to him.

The appointment to be joined on the 1st of October 1878.

J. KELLEHER,
Chairman,
D. R. C. Committee, Backergunge.

NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Commmittee of the Bengal Branch desire to stimulate the production of pure Bengali literature specially designed for Zenana reading. The works published by the Association will be issued under the name of the "Mary Carpenter series." It is proposed to issue this year *two works*, not exceeding 100 pages each. For two such works, which must be submitted to a committee appointed by the Association, the Committee is prepared to guarantee the cost of publication, and to grant to the writer two-thirds of the profits.

Gentlemen willing to undertake this work are invited to send in their names to Mrs. J. B. Knight, 4½ Esplanade, from whom any further particulars may be obtained.

M. S. KNIGHT,
Honorary Secretary.

WANTED in the Burdwan Road Cess Department a Sub-Overseer, salary 80 per mensem, including travelling allowance; a knowledge of Levelling and Surveying essential.

Applications with testimonials should be sent before 15th September 1878.

Burdwan, } J. C. PRICE,
The 15th August, 1878. } Chairman.

GOVERNMENT CINCHONA FEBRIFUGE.
AN EFFICIENT SUBSTITUTE FOR QUININE.

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CHUNDER NATH BOSE, M.A.
To be had at the Canning Library, 55, College Street, Calcutta.—Price 8 annas; postage 1 anna.

WANTED.—An Overseer for the District Road Cess Department of Rajshahye Salary Rs. 50 and travelling allowance according to P. W. Departmeqn rules.

None need apply who have not passed the examination for the grade of Overseer.

Applications to be sent to the undersigned with copies of testimonials not later than the 25th Austug 1878.

C. VOWELL,
Chairman Road Cess Committee
Rajshahye.

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WANTED.

By the District Road Cess Committee of Pubna a Sub-overseer, salary Rupees 35, besides travelling allowance.

Only those who are passed Sub-overseers and have had practical experience need apply.

Pubna } W. C. CLAY
The 19th August 1878. } *Chairman.*

Notice.

Wanted two Overseers for the Bogra District Road Works. Salary Rs. 50 and a horse allowance of Rs. 20 each. None need apply who has not passed the D. P. W. Examinations for the grade of Overseer. Applications will be received by the undersigned up to the 31st August 1878.

Bogra, } F. WYER,
The 15th August 1878. } Chairman,
Bogra Road Cess Committee,

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Premises No. 5, Kristodas Pal's Lane.
Ditto „ 25, Ditto Ditto.
Ditto „ 13, Modhoo Roy's Lane.
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Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
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All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

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Manager.

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Glycerine, Honey, O. B. and White Windsor, 3 tablets in a box ... 18 2 0

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For softening the skin and improving the complexion.
price Re. 1 per box cash ; Re. 1-4 credit.

Thompson's Mella Rose Soap.
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Transparent Soap Balls, small.....		0	12	1 0
„ „ „ medium.....		1	4	1 8
„ „ „ large.....		2	0	2 8
„ „ Cakes, small.....		0	12	1 0
„ „ „ large.....		1	4	1 8
„ „ Sticks, small.....		0	12	1 0
„ „ „ large.....		1	4	1 8
„ „ Tablets, small.....		0	12	1 4
„ „ „ large		1	4	1 8

Field's United Service Soap.
As used in the United Service and other Clubs.
Price per Tablet As. 8 cash As. 12 credit.
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Osborne's Baby's Soap.
Free from all deleterious matter, mild in use, and delicately perfumed ; imparting to the skin of the infant the fragrant odour of violets. B. & Co., strongly recommend this soap for Nursery use.
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Report by the Directors
PRESENTED TO THE
Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

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